

History of The Honourable
Artillery Company vol. - 1.


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HISTORY

OF THE

HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY HISTORY OF ARCHERY AND ARTILLERY.

CONTENTS.—Title of Company.—Meaning of word Artillery.—Its Ancient Use.—Introduced into England.—First Cannons in City of London.—Archers in Britain under Normans and Saxons.—Cross-bows introduced 1190.—Firearms or Hand-Guns, 1375.—Number of Archers provided by City Companies in Sixteenth Century.—Games made illegal 1363.—Broad Arrow, Ancient Crown Mark, 1386.—Statutes for promoting Archery.—Proclamations for encouraging archery.—The Greenwich Armoury Mills.—Company of Surgeons.—Invention of Grenades, 1594.—Bows exchanged for Calivers and Muskets, 1595.

THE Title of this Ancient Company has long ceased to fully describe its composition. The word "Artillery" in modern times signifies ordnance only, whereas it was formerly applied to all kinds of offensive weapons, more especially to Archery, and in this latter meaning was universally adopted so long as that weapon continued to flourish. It is in this sense that the word Artillery is used in the Old Testament, where it only once appears in our English Version.* The original Hebrew signifies merely instruments, but, Archery being the principal weapon

* 1 Sam. xx. 40, "And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry them to the city."

James I., the translators gave the common sense understood by the word Artillery, in ~~place~~ it may readily be accounted for, being the custom term for Archery long before firearms were adopted.*

Coming over the earlier instances of the mention of "incendiary projectiles" amongst the natives of China and Hindustan, Colonel Chesney, quotes the following passage from a Hindu bard:—"Oh! chief of Gajné, buckle on your armour, and prepare your fire-machines"; the meaning of which is explained in a following stanza, that the culivers and cannons made a loud report when they were fired, and the noise of the ball was heard upwards of 1,400 yards off. The fact of cannon balls having been propelled by means of gunpowder in India as early as A.D. 1200, the epoch of the poet, appears to be established, although the use of Artillery is not mentioned by any European writer before the fourteenth century. The Moors, according to Condé, used artillery against Saragossa in 1118; and in 1132 a culverin of 4 lb. calibre was made. In 1157, when the Spaniards took Niebla, the Moors defended themselves by machines which threw darts and stones by means of fire.

In 1280 artillery was used against Cordova; and in 1306 or 1308 Ferdinand IV. took Gibraltar from the Moors by means of artillery.

These, and other examples, render it almost certain that the use of gunpowder became first known in Europe through the Moorish conquests and warfare in Spain, although the true components of gunpowder were known to Friar Bacon, and were made generally known throughout Europe by Bartholdus Schwartz in 1320.

Edward III. of England used "Crakeys of War" during his campaign against the Scots in 1327, and is said to have used artillery at the battle of Cressy in 1346; but this is doubtful, and no notice of them at the subsequent battle of Poitiers can be traced. In 1347 Edward did, however, use artillery at the siege of Calais, as did the Prince of Wales in 1356 in reducing the Castle of Romozantin. In 1378 Richard

II. employed 400 cannons, which fired day and night unsuccessful attack on St. Malo.*

In an Inventory of Munitions of War, provided by the City against an expected invasion by the French in the reign of Edward III., this interesting entry occurs:—"Also in the Chamber of the Guildhall there are six instruments of latone called gones, and five roleres to the same. Also pellets of lead for the same instruments, which weigh 4 hundredweight and a half. Also 32 pounds of powder for the said instruments."

Latone, or latten, was a hard, yellow mixed metal, closely resembling brass.

This is probably the earliest passage at present known that bears reference to the use of cannon in England; and, this taken into consideration, the information it gives is remarkably full; the earliest hitherto pointed out in the Privy Wardrobe accounts (in Mr. Hewitt's Arms and Armour of the Fourteenth Century) being five years later in date. The probability is, that the Bardi, a Mercantile Society of Florence, had imported them, as they are mentioned as supplying the City authorities with cloth two years before; and M. Libri has discovered that cannon were already used for the defence of Florence in 1326.†

Although artillery was used from the time of Edward III., and purchased from abroad by all our succeeding sovereigns, it seems strange that none of our workmen attempted to cast them, till the reign of Henry VIII., when—in the year 1521, according to Stow, or 1535, according to Camden—great brass ordnance or cannons and culverins were first cast in England by one John Owen, whose family, with the Pitts, continued to manufacture guns until the reign of James.‡ About the year

* Encyclopædia Britannica, eighth edition, Vol. III., pp. 683, 684. For fuller details regarding Artillery and Guns, &c., see Scott's History of the British Army, Vol. II., pp. 197-247; Grose's Military Antiquities, Vol. I., pp. 381-392; and Hollingshed, Vol. I., pp. 198, 199.

† Letter Book F, flyleaf (Latin), A.D. 1339, and Riley's Memorials of London.

‡ Grose's Military Antiquities, Vol. I., p. 383, and Howe's Stow, p. 571.

593 great quantities of iron ordnance were manufactured to be sent abroad, in consequence of which the number of founders was limited.*

Artillery is a term derived from the French, signifying Archery, and from that nation the English seem to have learnt at least the use of the crossbow.

William the Conqueror had a considerable number of bowmen in his army at the battle of Hastings, when no mention is made of such troops on the side of Harold, and it is supposed that these Norman archers shot with the arbalest or crossbow.

Bows and arrows are of very ancient date, for we read of them in Scripture as early as 1892 B.C., in which it is said of Ishmael that he "dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer."†

When the Romans first invaded Britain under Julius Cæsar, in 55 B.C., the arms of the British were the spear or lance, sword, dagger, battle-axe, and bows and arrows, the latter being made of reed, with flint, bone, or metal heads. The metal used in the construction of arms was bronze.

Between A.D. 450 and 1066 the Saxons may have used the bow, but in the latter part they discontinued their use except for the chase; for Henry of Huntingdon makes William the Conqueror speak of the Saxons as a nation not even having arrows; they were, however, famed for their expertness with the mace and battle-axe. In 1066 Harold II., having observed that the heavy armour of the Saxons prevented them from pursuing the Welsh into their recesses, commanded them to use lighter weapons, and armour made of leather only.

Under the Normans the archers were a most important body, and rendered invaluable service at the battle of Hastings, which was decided by them; and from this time, and for many centuries after, the bow was the chief arm of the English, being used both by mounted troops as well as infantry. The weapons used from the Conquest were principally bows and arrows, half-pike, spears, halberds, maces, various kinds of battle-axes, swords, and daggers. In the reign of Henry I. (1100-1135) archery was

* Strype's Stow, Book 1., p. 108.

† Gen. xxi. 20.

much cultivated, and great numbers of bowmen were brought into the field, and an Act was passed freeing from the charge of murder anyone who, in practising with arrows or darts, should kill a person standing near.

The cross-bow appears to have been used in the chase in this reign.

The Irish at this period were still without the bow, and the English conquests in Ireland were due to its use; but the Welsh bowmen were celebrated for their expertness.

During the reign of Richard I. (1189-99) the arbalest, or cross-bow was adopted as a weapon of war; its use was forbidden by the second Lateran Council, in 1139 as fatal and cruel, and again by Pope Innocent III., about the year 1200. Many of the cross-bows were provided with sights. Archers were preferred as infantry, and cross-bowmen as cavalry.

In 1285 Edward I. passed the celebrated Act known as the Statute of Winchester, by which every male between fifteen and sixty years of age had to provide himself with certain arms, according to the quantity of his goods or land.*

Firearms were introduced in the reign of Edward III. Authorities differ in their statements regarding the exact year and country in which they were invented; and the actual date of the first portable firearm, the hand-gun, is involved in obscurity. An inquisition, taken at Huntercombe in Yorkshire, in 1375, mentions the attack on the manor house by forty men armed, among other weapons, with "gonnes," supposed to be the hand-gun.† In 1341 an order was issued to the sheriffs of most of the English counties to provide 500 white bows and 500 bundles of arrows for the intended war against France.

In the famous battle of Cressy, in 1346, our chroniclers state that we had 2,800 archers, to whom our victory was chiefly ascribed. The French historian, Philip de Comines, agrees with our own writers in asserting that the English archers excelled those of every other nation; and Sir John Fortescue says again

* Scott's History of the British Army, Vol. I., p. 255, and Vol. II., p. 78.

† Text Book for School of Musketry, pp. 82-88.

and again, "that the might of the realme of England standyth upon archers." The superior dexterity of the archers gave the English a great advantage over both the French and the Scots. The French depended chiefly on their men-at-arms, and the Scots on their pikemen; but the ranks of both were often thinned and thrown into disorder by flights of arrows, before they could reach their enemies.*

In 1355 the City of London provided 25 men-in-arms, and 500 archers, all habited in the same uniform; a splendid present to the King, which he received with great satisfaction.†

The various City Companies in olden times had to keep a certain number of bowmen. Mention is made of a muster of the men, and number of arms belonging to each Company, as early as May, 1448.‡ On the eve of the St. Peter and St. John, in the year 1518, a muster of the bowmen found by each of the City Companies, the number belonging to each Company was from two to eight men each.§ The number of men supplied by twenty-six of the principal City Companies in 1585 amounted to about 2,800; from the Grocers and Haberdashers, mustering 395 each, to the Stationers, and Barbers and Surgeons, with twenty-seven, and twenty-four respectively.||

But though the English archers had justly acquired a high degree of reputation over all Europe, and had contributed greatly to the brilliant success of their country's arms in France and elsewhere, yet a few years' peace sunk their manly, martial, and elegant art into disuse, especially in the Metropolis, where it had given place to amusements, some trivial, some ruinous, and some barbarous and inhuman. Edward endeavoured to call off the citizens from pursuits so unworthy, by restoring the practice of Archery, an exercise at once wholesome, useful, and inexpensive. For this purpose, in 1363, he addressed letters to the Sheriffs of London, enjoining that in places in the City, as well within the liberties as without, where they should see it expe-

* *Encyclopædia Britannica*, eighth edition, Vol. III., pp. 424-8.

† *Hunter's London*, pp. 237, 238.

‡ *Journal*, Vol. V., f. 10, 11.

§ *Letter Book N*, f. 79, 8th June.

|| *Stow*, Vol. II., p. 451, and *Maitland*, Vol. I., p. 269.

dient, public proclamation should be made, that every one of the said City, strong in body, at leisure time or holidays, should use in their recreations bows and arrows, or pellets, or bolts, and learn and exercise the art of shooting; forbidding all, on pain of imprisonment, in any manner to apply themselves to the throwing of stones, wood, iron, hand-ball, foot-ball, bandy-ball, cambuch, or cock-fighting, or other such-like vain plays, which had no profit in them.*

The most ancient mark for Crown property is the "Broad Arrow," at one time only used by the Admiralty, but now used by the War Department for every description of stores, and is too well known to need description. It was in common use at a very early period, as the following extract from the Records of the Corporation of the City of London, in the reign of Richard II., in 1386, will show.

"On the 24th of December Thomas Stokes was brought before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, for having during the past eight days gone to the houses of several brewers, pretending to be an officer and a taker of ale for the King's household, and there marked several barrels full of ale with a mark called 'arewehede,' saying that those barrels were for the household of their Lord the King, whereas in truth he was not an officer belonging to the King, and he falsely and deceitfully received divers sums of money from the brewers that they might have the ale in peace; he admitted his guilt, and was sentenced to be put upon the pillory for an hour."†

Charles I., on the 9th of March, 1627, signed a Warrant ordering the letters C.R., as a mark for Crown property, which was to be used for all stores for land service, and for sea service C.R. and an anchor. This was done to try and prevent purloining and changing stores from the armouries and other places.‡

As early as 1487 shooting with the long-bow appears to have been on the decline, and during the succeeding eighty years

* Hunter's London.

† Letter Book H, f. 209 (Latin), and Riley's Memorials of London, p. 489.

‡ Clode's Military Forces of the Crown, Vol. II., pp. 678-680.

a number of Acts were passed for the encouragement of this exercise.*

The preamble of the Act passed in 1487† set forth that as the defence of the realm depended on archery, which had fallen into decay from the dearth and excessive price of long bows, and directed that, after the feast of the Purification of Our Lady, any person who sold bows for more than 3s. 4d. should be fined 40s. for every one sold.

A few years later, sufficient bow staves not having been brought into the kingdom for a long time past, the Custom duties were abolished for all bows 6½ feet long, to encourage merchants to import them, so as to increase archers and the artillery of the same.‡

Cross-bows next became popular, but were discouraged, and many Acts were passed laying restrictions on their use, the first being in 1503-4, when the King, considering that, in the time of his Most Noble Progenitors, shooting with long bows was much used, whereby honour and victory against their enemies had been achieved, and shooting being then greatly decayed, *his subjects greatly delighting in the cross-bow, with which they occasioned great destruction amongst the King's deer*; directed that after Easter the cross-bow should not be used without his special licence, exceptions being made in favour of a man defending his house, or a lord, or any person possessing land of the yearly value of 200 marks. All offenders were to be prosecuted and fined 40s. for every day one had been used; and any servant who used one was to be discharged, unless the fine was paid.§ This not being found sufficient (many persons obtaining the required licence by false pretences, so that cross-bow shooting had increased if anything), an Act

* The following are the Statutes relating to Archery:—

† 3 Hen. VII., cap. 13	1487	14 & 15 Hen. VIII., cap. 7	1523
‡ 19 "	2 } 1503-4	25 "	17 1533-4
§ 19 "	4 } 1511-12	33 "	6 } 1541-2
3 Hen. VIII.	3 } 1511-12	" "	9 }
" "	13 }	8 Eliz.	" 10 1566
6 "	2 } 1514-15		
" "	13 }		

was passed in 1511-12, declaring all licences granted previous to the first day of that Parliament void, and increasing the qualification to 300 marks.* In 1515 the Act recites that the King's deer continued to be destroyed by cross-bows, and hand-gonnes (here first mentioned), but permitted them to be kept for defence in all walled towns within seven miles of the sea,† which was extended, in 1523, to all persons having land of the yearly value of £100.‡ In 1534, the inhabitants of Northumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, and Cumberland, were allowed to keep them for the defence of their houses, against the Scots and other the King's enemies.§ Their use was further extended, in 1541, when permission was given to all gentlemen, yemen, and inhabitants of cities, boroughs, and market towns, to skoot with hand-gonnes a yard long, demy lakes or hagbuttes three-quarters of a yard long, at any butt or banks of earth in convenient places; and persons living more than two furlongs away from such towns could keep and practise with them for their defence; and also the inhabitants within twelve miles of the borders of Scotland, the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, and Isle of Wight. This was the last Act on the subject of the use of cross-bows.||

Active measures were taken by Henry VIII. for the encouragement and practice of archery. In 1512 an Act¶ was passed, reciting the advantages of the long-bow, and repeating the injunction against the cross-bow contained in the Act passed in 1503-4; and ordering that, as shooting with the former was then "right little used," and was daily diminishing more and more, that the Statute of Winchester for Archers should be put into execution. Every man under sixty years of age, and not suffering from any infirmity (except the clergy, justices, and judges) had always to keep bows and arrows in their houses, and to make use

* 3 Hen. VIII., cap. 13.

† 6 Hen. VIII., cap. 13, and Scott's History of the British Army, Vol. II., p. 91.

‡ 14 & 15 Hen. VIII., cap. 7.

§ 25 Hen. VIII., cap. 17.

|| 33 Hen. VIII., cap. 6. See also Grose's Military Antiquities, Vol. I., pp. 128-136, and pp. 141-3.

¶ 3 Hen. VIII., cap. 3.

of them; and every boy, from seven to seventeen, had to be instructed in their use. Any person not providing themselves with these articles were to be fined a shilling for every month they remained without them. The statutes against unlawful games were put in force. The bowyers were directed to make at least one bow of yew for every one made of elm, wych, or other cheap wood. Butts were ordered to be made in every city and town, according to the laws of ancient times, and the inhabitants were compelled to keep them in repair, and make use of them on holy days and other convenient times. The justices were directed to appoint bowyers in all cities, shires and boroughs, to make the necessary bows. In 1514-15 a similar Act* was passed to try and put a stop to such unlawful games as tennis play, bowles, &c., "which only lead to murders and robberies."†

In a Warrant addressed to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen from the Manor of Okyng, [Woking], on the 20th of August, 1521,‡ the King stating that as it was good policy in times of peace to provide against war, he intended to have a good number of archers prepared and put in readiness, both for the defence of the realm and other dominions and garrisons in outward parts. They were therefore ordered with all possible diligence to prepare a hundred able bowmen and archers to be ready for the wars at a day's warning. A Proclamation,§ dated 12th January, 1537, to carry out the Statute of the 25th of Henry VIII., orders that cross-bows were not to be used by persons of an estate of less value than £100 per annum, under a penalty of £10; and further ordered that all hand-guns carried by licensed persons were to have the stock at least two feet and a half long, on pain of imprisonment and fine.

Divers grievous complaints having been made that persons licensed to shoot with hand-guns took upon themselves to shoot in towns and boroughs and other unmeet places without regard to where their pellets went, so that persons on the highway, streets, and even in their own houses and gardens, had been put

* 6 Henry VIII., cap. 2.

† See also Scott's History of the British Army, Vol. II., p. 75-121.

‡ Journal, Vol. XII., f. 125.

§ Idem, Vol. XIV., f. 27^b.

in great jeopardy of their lives, a Warrant, dated 27th July, 1540, directed that no person of any quality or degree was to shoot elsewhere than at the places set aside for that purpose, under pain of imprisonment and fine at the King's pleasure.*

In 1541-2 another attempt was made to keep up archery by an Act† passed for the maintenance of artillery and debarring unlawful games; from which it appears that the bowyers fletchers, stringers, and arrow-head makers, in consequence of lack of work, had gone to Scotland and other places abroad and settled there, working and teaching their science to the great comfort of strangers, and the detriment of this realm. All those practising the above trades who had come to London in search of employment were to be sent to inhabit such towns and other places as the Council should direct. Sundry regulations were laid down for the distances at which persons of different ages were to shoot; and no one was allowed to keep any public place for bowling, tennis, or any prohibited games under certain penalties.

The bowyers complained, in 1566, that so few bows of elm, wych, hazel, or ash, were used, but only yew; so an Act was passed directing every bowyer to keep fifty good bows of elm, ash, and foreign yew, &c., well made, not exceeding 6s. 8d. each, second best 3s. 4d., third sort, called livery bows, 2s., and any bow of English yew for 2s.; and a fine of 40s. was imposed for any sold above that price.‡ The English always used a very long bow; those who were arrived at maturity were prohibited from shooting at any mark that was not upwards of 220 yards distant, under a penalty of 6s. 8d. for each shot; the range of a bow is said to have been from 320 to 400 yards.§

Another Proclamation,|| made on the 4th of February, 1544, states that the King, considering how expedient it was at that time to have a number of his subjects skilled and trained in the feat of shooting with hand-guns and hagbushes, gave liberty to

* Journal, Vol. XIV., f. 215.

† 33 Hen. VIII., cap 9.

‡ 8 Elizabeth, cap. 10.

§ Grose's Military Antiquities, Vol. II., pp. 267, 275.

|| Letter Book Q., f. 98^b.

all his subjects of sixteen years of age and upwards, to use the said arms without any forfeiture or fine, provided they did not shoot any deer, partridges, pheasants, herons, showlards, teles, or hares, that breed or haunt any of His Majesty's houses; or in any other place without leave from the owner of the ground; and shooting in towns and villages was only to be allowed at the appointed places where butts were provided.

In Edward VI.'s reign Archery began to decline. It is not surprising that the long-bow, which was the chief and favourite weapon of England, and which, in the hands of trained men, was most accurate and capable of being used rapidly, should have been reluctantly given up for firearms, which were, for a long time, exceedingly heavy, clumsy, slow in loading, troublesome to clean, and without accuracy. In Mary's reign they do not appear to have been anxious to introduce firearms; it being left to the choice of the people whether they should find a long-bow and sheaf of arrows, or a hackbutt.

In 1547 the Lord Mayor and Aldermen issued a Proclamation,* dated the 27th of October, saying they found it very expedient, requisite, and necessary to call attention to the Statute of the 33 Henry VIII., relating to Archery, Artillery, and unlawful games, and to remind people of the penalties therein.

The amount of pay received by archers at this period is shown in a warrant of the 2nd of May, 1548, allowing five of the King's archers eightpence per diem for a given time; and twenty shillings for their conduct into Scotland.†

About this time an Arsenal appears to have been founded at Greenwich, as, on the 6th of March, 1547, a Warrant‡ for £200 was given to Sir Richard Leigh, for making an Armoury Mill, near there; and two years later is another one for £259 10s. 9d. to Sir William Cavendish, dated the 17th of March, 1549,§ to pay to Henry Lee, Clerk of the King's Armoury, for wages of the Armoury at Greenwich, from the 26th of July to the 3rd of April, 1550; another was granted on the 6th of May, 1550, for the same amount, being part of £276 15s. 4d. due to the "Alle-

* Letter Book Q, f. 216b.

† Council Registers (Edw. VI.), Vol. I., p. 314.

‡ Idem, Vol. I., p. 103.

§ Idem, Vol. II., p. 120.

maigne Armourers" at Greenwich.* The Armoury Mills were removed to Purfleet about the end of the seventeenth century, in consequence of a Petition from the inhabitants of Greenwich; and the site, with some adjoining land, was leased, in 1770, to Henry Vansittart, Esq. In 1697 the mills were used by potters for grinding their colours, and one was afterwards used for a flour mill, and the other for manufacturing halberds.†

The manner in which the Army in those days was supplied with surgeons is shown in a letter from the Privy Council to the Lord Mayor, dated the 28th of July, 1562, directing him to forbear troubling the Company of Surgeons with any muster, because at all setting-forth of men they were bound to furnish the Army with Surgeons.‡

Proclamations were made by the Lord Mayor, on the 9th of September, 1568,§ and again in 1572,|| in which the Statute of the 33 Henry VIII. is quoted as being very necessary to be put in execution, and reminding the citizens that for all boys from seven to seventeen years of age a bow and two arrows was always to be kept for each of them; in the case of servants the cost being deducted from their wages. From seventeen to sixty years of age all able men had to be provided with a bow and four arrows; and masters and fathers were rendered liable to a fine of 6s. 8d. for every month they were unprovided with them.

Letters Patent, dated the 25th of June, 1571, were granted by Elizabeth to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, appointing Commissioners, for seven years, to carry out this Act, and authorising them to compound with offenders against the Statutes, Sir Humphrey being appointed Receiver-General of all fines, and accounting for the same to the Court of Exchequer.¶

* Council Registers (Edw. VI.), Vol. III., p. 31. See also the King's Book of Payments, additional MSS., No. 21,481, in British Museum.

† Lyson's Environs of London, Vol. IV., p. 492.

‡ Council Registers (Eliz.), Vol. I., p. 42.

§ Letter Book V, f. 190.

|| Journal, Part I., Vol. XX., f. 46b, and Letter Book V, f. 290-1.

¶ Patent Roll, 13 Eliz., Part II., Memb. 1, dorso. An abstract of this Patent is given in Appendix C.

In an Act passed during this year, which recites that of 12 Edward IV., and states that "whereas the use of Archery not only hath ever been, but also yet is, by God's especial gift to the English nation, a singular defence of the realm,"* therefore confirmed and enlarged its provisions.

Elizabeth issued a Commission† in 1572 to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, in which it is stated that (owing to the neglect of the provisions of the Statute of 33 Henry VIII. for the maintenance of Artillery and debarring of unlawful games, in not searching as to whether the number of bows and arrows therein ordered to be kept were duly provided) shooting in most parts of the realm was utterly forgotten. The Queen therefore appointed them and their deputies, Commissioners, with power to search both the city and suburbs to see that the proper number of bows and arrows were provided, and to ascertain who kept houses or alleys for unlawful games. All persons were to be required to bring their bows and arrows to some convenient place, and those not furnished with them, or making use of unlawful games the Commissioners were first to try by gentle admonitions to reform, so that the exercise of shooting might be continued; and if they failed to influence them, their names and dwellings were to be certified to the Lord Chancellor and Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, so that the necessary steps might be taken as the law directed. Some idea of the strict regulations under which games were restricted may be formed from the following Ordinance, issued on the 22nd of November, 1572, by the Lord Mayor, straightly charging and commanding that "playinge at the footeballe" should not be played within the city, in consequence of the disturbance and disorder caused by breaking the glass windows, overthrowing women and children, and poor impotent folks; and the constables were ordered to apprehend all offenders.‡

A few years after, letters, dated 20th July, 1577, were sent by the Privy Council to all the counties ordering the use of bows and arrows, and reviving the Statute for Artillery above mentioned.§

* 13 Eliz., cap. 14. † Journal, Part I., Vol. XX., f. 47.

‡ Idem, Part I., Vol. XX., f. 27.

§ Council Registers (Eliz.), Vol. III., p. 221.

An Order of the Privy Council, dated the 18th of June, 1580, directs corslets for the use of the shires to be sold by the Master of the Armoury, to the number of 2,000, at 23s. 4d. each, to such persons as desired to buy them.

On the following day a letter was sent to the Lord Mayor, requiring him to revive the training of the "shotte" within the City, which was suspended in 1578 on account of the Plague, and the training was to be continued annually. *

In April, 1588, orders were issued relating to the 10,000 men the City was to furnish for the defence of the Queen's person and the City; and it appears that the Earl of Leicester did not think that the Captains and Leaders appointed by the City were fit to have charge of them. †

Letters were sent from the Court at Greenwich, dated the 6th of June, 1591, to the Lords-Lieutenant of several counties, stating that the Council was informed that divers unlawful games were daily used in most places in the realm, and that Archery was greatly decayed, and, in a manner, almost laid aside; and this ancient weapon was recommended to be revived. ‡

The Bowyers and other poor Companies complained to the Privy Council of disorders in the City and other parts of the realm from neglect of the laws relating to Archery, and unlawful games, and the Lord Mayor was directed, on the 30th of June, 1583, to see them properly carried out. §

On the 4th of June, 1592, the Company of Bowyers presented a petition against unlawful games, which greatly interfered with their trade. ||

In 1594 grenades were invented, which were, at first, projected from hand mortars; they gave origin, in France, to the troops denominated Grenadiers, who were soldiers trained in the art of throwing hand-grenades. In 1678 each Grenadier Company in the British Army was armed with grenades, but this was discontinued in the reign of Queen Anne.

* Council Registers (Eliz.), Vol. V., pp. 52, 53.

† Idem (Eliz.), Vol. VII., p. 120, 12th April, 1588, and p. 217, 26th July, 1588.

‡ Idem (Eliz.), Vol. IX., pp. 310, 311.

§ Remembrancia, Vol. I., No. 519.

|| Council Registers (Eliz.), Vol. X., p. 386.

A most important change was made in 1595 by an Order in Council, dated the 26th of October, directing that the Bows of the Trained Bands were to be exchanged for Calivers and Muskets.* Thus, in spite of all the efforts that had been made during the previous century to maintain Archery, it was at last superseded by firearms, and from this time gradually sank into insignificance and disuse.

On the 23rd of July, 1598, the office of Muster-Master was abolished, but was revived again some years after. On the 6th of September of the same year the office of Provost-Marshal, for London, and some of the counties adjacent, was instituted for suppressing rogues and vagabonds.†

* Council Registers (Eliz.), Vol. XII., p. 17.

† Idem (Eliz.), Vol. XIV., p. 339, and Vol. XV., p. 75.

CHAPTER II.

FROM THE INCORPORATION OF THE COMPANY IN 1537
TO 1601.

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1537.—On the 25th of August, 1537, a Charter of Incorporation was granted to the Archers in and about the City of London, under the title of the Fraternity or Guild of St. George; Sir Christopher Morris, Knt., Master of the Ordnance, Anthony Knevett, and Peter Mewtes, Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, were appointed Overseers of the said Guild and Science of Artillery, or Long-bows, Cross-bows, and Hand-guns. Four Masters and Rulers were appointed for life, viz., Sir Christopher Morris, Cornelius Johnson, Anthony Anthony, and Henry Johnson; and they were directed to begin, found, guard and establish a perpetual Fraternity of St. George, and had full powers and authority given them to choose and admit into their said Fraternity or Guild all manner of honest persons whatsoever, including foreigners.

The Masters and Rulers, and such brethren as they should elect and admit, were to be one body and commonality corporate, having succession perpetually by the name of Masters and Rulers and Commonality of the Fraternity or Guild of Artillery of Long-bows, Cross-bows, and Hand-guns, and they and their successors were empowered to implede and be impleded by the name of Masters and Rulers of the said Brotherhood or Guild, and had power and authority to choose and elect amongst themselves four Under-Masters and Rulers, to oversee and govern the said Fraternity, and to have the custody of such lands, tenements, rents, possessions, goods and chattels, as should happen to be purchased, bequeathed, given, granted, or assigned unto them.

Every year, as it should best please them, they might choose four Under-Masters and Rulers, either English or foreigners, of good name and fame, and, if need required, might remove them and elect others as often as they liked. They were also empowered to use a common seal for all necessary things belonging to the Fraternity, and were enabled to implead or be impleaded, answer and be answered, before any Judge or Justice spiritual or temporal whatsoever, in any Court or Courts in the realm, in all actions, quarrels and suits, real or personal, &c.

They had power to make laws and regulations for the good government of the Fraternity, and to alter or change the same as often as should be thought necessary. They also had full power to purchase lands, tenements, and other hereditaments, not being held of the Crown in capite, the Statute of Mortmain or other statutes or other things passed to the contrary notwithstanding. And, furthermore, for the better increase of the defence of the realm, and maintaining the science of shooting, they were granted licence for their disport and pastime, to use and shoot with long-bows, cross-bows and hand-guns at all manner of marks and butts, and at the game of the Popinjaye and other games, as well as at fowls, both in London and suburbs, and all other parts of the realm of England, Ireland, Calais, and Wales; the royal forests, chases and parks excepted, unless by special warrant, as also herons and pheasants, within

two miles of any royal mansion, or castle, or other place where the Sovereign might happen to be, were also reserved.

They and their servants were permitted to keep their long-bows, cross-bows, and hand-guns, and use the same as often as they pleased; but servants were not permitted to shoot at any kind of fowl, and were liable to the penalties of the Acts if they offended. No other Fraternity or Guild could be formed in any part of the realm unless licensed by the Masters and Rulers of this Fraternity.

They were entitled to wear any kind of embroidery, or any device in silver on their gowns, jackets, coats, and doublets; also any kind of silk, velvet, satin, or damask (the colours of purple and scarlet only excepted) in their gowns and jackets. Also all furs on their gowns or elsewhere, except martins, any Act or Proclamation to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Masters and Rulers and their successors were especially exempted from being empanelled, or compelled to serve on any manner of Quest or Jury, either within the City, or other places in the realm.

Whenever any of them used the word commonly spoken before shooting, viz., "Fast," and it happened that any person running past or going between any such shooter and the mark was killed or otherwise hurt, provided the mark was in an open place usually shot at, such person could not be arrested, imprisoned, sued, or troubled or molested for it, nor suffer death, or lose any member, or forfeit any goods, lands, chattels, &c., for so doing; any Act or Proclamation made then or thereafter to the contrary notwithstanding.

The somewhat vague manner in which the preamble of this Charter is worded, in speaking of Sir Christopher Morris and his associates, apparently, as if they were previously overseers of a Guild or Fraternity of St. George; although in the same document they are themselves authorized to *begin* and *found* a fraternity by that name, has caused Maitland and all subsequent historians to fall into error by presuming the existence of an earlier Company of Archers of that name, who were said to have been founded at Mile-end by Henry VIII., but of whose existence there is no proof whatever, neither can any trace be now

found of such a Society.* It would indeed be difficult to believe that two Societies or Guilds, having the same objects, should be established under precisely the same title. That the Artillery Company and the Fraternity or Guild of St. George are one and the same body, can no longer be doubted; and it is proved conclusively by a MS. of the time of Henry VIII., in the Bodleian Library, entitled "An Admittance of a Brother into the Guild of St. George, and his Duty;" and in another copy of the same, "The Admission of a Brother into the Brotherhood of St. George," in which all the names of the persons mentioned in the above Charter appear, and all their privileges are recited therefrom almost verbatim; the paper, which is a form or certificate of Membership of the Society, being as follows:—†

"To all and singular the Kyngs hignes Officers Ministres and Subjects aswell within this his Realme of England as also his Dominions of Irelande, Wales, Calice, and the Marchesse of the same unto whom theise pnts shall come to be reade herde or seen, We S^r Christofer Mores Knight Maister of the Kyngs Ordennce, Anthony Knevet, and Peter Meauties, Gentlemen Husshers of the Kyngs Privye Chambre, Corneles Johnson, Anthoni Antony, and Henry Johnson Maisters and Rulers of the ffraternite or Guilde of Sainte George, graunted & given Unto us by o^r Moost gracious Sovraigne Lorde the Kings Majestie und^r his greate Seall being the same incorporate for ever sende greeting in the Lord everlasting. KNOWE ye that

* The principal authorities who have fallen into this error are—Maitland's London, Vol. I., p. 237; Chamberlain's History of London, p. 192; Noorthonck's History of London, p. 119; Seymour's Survey of London, Vol. I., pp. 231, 232; Scott's History of the British Army, Vol. II., pp. 121-150; Clode's Military Forces of the Crown, Vol. I., p. 402; and Highmore, p. 23.

† Ashmolean MS., Vol. XXXVIII., No. 1,134, p. 63, engrossed in black letter and indorsed on the back "The Admyssion of a brother into the brotherhood of Sainte George." There is also a rough copy of it in the same collection, Vol. XV., No. 1,111, p. 18^b, copied also by Ashmole, and marked in margin "Ex Autogr^r in Bibl^r Cottoniana"; but it does not appear in the Cottonian Catalogues. This copy is headed "An Admittance of a Brother into the Guild of St. George, and his Duty."

by vertue & authorite of oure saide incorporacion & by force of the same we have chosen, accepted, taken & admitted and by theise pntes doe chose accepte take and admytt into o^r saide fraternyte or Guild, o^r well beloved W. A. to be a brother and fellowe of the same, soe that the saide W. A. shall maynteyne furnyshe and encrease the Science and feate of shootyng in Longbowes Crossebowes and Handegonnes and for his dysporte and pastyme from tyme to tyme durying his lyfe shall moeve at his libertie use and shote in the same ingiens at all man^r markes, butts and other game or games, as at the game of alman^r fflowles whatsoever they be, aswell within the Citie of London the Surburbes of the same, as in every other place or places in any parte of this the Kyngs Realme, his Lands of Ireland, Wales, Calice, or the Marchesse of the same, in as large and ample manner as a fellowe or a Brother of the same ffraternyte may and ought to doe, by virtue of the Kyngs sayde privilege and grauntes. (The fforestes pks and chasys of the Kings highnes withoute his graces speciall warrante in that behalfe, and also the game of the Heron, and Feasaunte w^{thin} two myles of any of the Kyngs Castells Mannors or other places wher his Majestie shall lye & demoure for that tyme only reserved and exceptyd). And overthat, that he the sayde W.A. shall and maye at his libertie detayne & kepe in his howse chambr or other place, the said ingyngs of Longbowe Crossebow and Handgonne, and his S^rvnts to beare bende & charge thym or any of thym at the pleasure of his Maister withoute any manner damage penaltie, losse, trouble or hindrannce to ensue unto hym. And finally the saide W. A. to enjoye all and singular suche liberties privileges & p^rhemynences as to the saide fraternitie in any manner of wyse apperteynyth or belongeth, & in as large and ample manner as it hath pleased the Kyngs Moost gracious highnes to grante, or that hereafter shalbe grantede to the same fraternite. Providedde alwayes that the saide S^rvnts (not beyng a Brother) Shall not by colo^r of any thyng afore mencionede Shote in any of the sayde ingyngs at any of the saide games or marks upon payn of forfayture of suche penalties as is expressed in the Kyngs Actes passed for that po^rpose."

Many sumptuary edicts were in former times published by proclamation, regulating the material, colours, and decorations of the garments to be worn by people in different ranks of life; amongst the trimmings, the fur of various animals made a very distinguishing part, and were particularly appropriated.*

FINSBURY AND MOORFIELDS.—The earliest records relating to Finsbury and Moorfields is in the reign of William the Conqueror, who gave to the Collegiate Church of St. Martin-le Grand all the moor land without Cripplegate.

From a very early period the neighbourhood of Finsbury and Moorfields were the principal places of resort for the practice of Archery. In the latter place many changes were made before it was finally devoted to shooting, being at one time, as its name denotes, a moor, and but little better than a swamp, in which all manner of refuse was deposited for many years.

An Ordinance was issued on the 12th of January, 1412, for the removal of the gardens in Moorfields.†

During the reign of Henry V., in the year 1415, we are told that in consequence of the default of provision being made for the proper management of a certain watery and vacant piece of land called "The Moor," and of a latrine there, the cellars and dwelling-houses in many streets and lanes adjoining were overflowed, and much sickness arose from the horrible corrupt and infected atmosphere proceeding from the latrine. The Mayor and Aldermen, together with an immense congregation of many reputable men of the City, assembled in Common Council, at the Guildhall, on the 2nd of July, when it was stated that at divers times the moor had been changed into a garden, and at another time into a vacant piece of land, and so repeatedly altered and changed. It was then decided that the moor should be allotted and divided into different gardens, and let at a proper rent, and that the latrine should be removed!‡

* Grose's Military Antiquities, Vol. I., p. 138.

† Letter Book I, f. 111.

‡ Letter Book I, f. 152 (Latin). See Riley's Memorials of London, p. 614.

MOORFIELDS.—On the 10th of October, 1497, the Court of Aldermen directed that the moor ground should be viewed, and a report made thereon.* Several writers state that in this year, Archery having acquired so high an estimation in the Metropolis, all the gardens and orchards on the north side of Chiswell Street, which had continued time out of mind, without Moorgate, were destroyed, and of them was made a large field, containing eleven acres eleven perches, for archers and other military citizens, to shoot in.† Others corroborate this circumstance, and speak of them as the gardens and orchards about Chiswell Street and Finsbury.‡ On the 28th of July, 1502, the Chamberlain was ordered to prepare a lease of the moor ground to William Cure; and also of five acres lying beyond it.§ A subsequent Order, dated the 24th of January, 1512, directed that the Moorfields were to be levelled and a convenient place provided for the doghouse of the common hunt, and the old one to be removed.|| On the 12th of February of the following year two Aldermen were appointed to inspect the ground and give orders to keep it clean, and no dirt or rubbish was to be put there any more.¶ The southern part of Moorfields, known as Windmill Hill, was first raised by upwards of a thousand cartloads of bones from St. Paul's charnel-house, which were removed there in 1549, and was afterwards covered with dirt from the street and converted into a "laystall"; three windmills were afterwards erected on the spot. Upper Moorfields was so called from the ground having been raised in a similar manner.**

FINSBURY.—The Manor of Finsbury was in a much better state, and it was in "ffynysbury felds" that the famous annual competitions in shooting for prizes were generally held.

Robert de Baldock, Prebendary of Haliwell and Finsbury,

* Repertory, Vol. I., f. 28.

† Hollingshed, Vol. III., p. 785.

‡ Stow, Book IV., p. 54. Maitland, Vol. I., pp. 16, 219, 223.

§ Repertory, Vol. I., f. 105.

|| Idem, Vol. II., f. 126.

¶ Letter Book X, f. 199.

** Maitland, Vol. II., p. 1,370. Ellis's Shoreditch, p. 161.

with the consent of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, on the 22nd of May, 1315, granted to the Mayor and Commonalty of London, all his right and claim in Mora de Halywell and Finsbury, at the yearly rent of twenty shillings.*

On the 29th of January, 1512, three of the Aldermen were appointed "to speke w^t the Chaunceler of Powlys for ffynnesbury felds."†

There was evidently some disagreement between the parties even at this early period, as, on the 2nd of October, 1553, the Court of Aldermen decided to defend the suit against the Prebendary of St. Paul's, Guy Wade, gentleman farmer, of the Manor of Finsbury, paying one-third of the costs.‡

A lease was afterwards granted to the Mayor and Commonalty by Edward Moyle, Prebendary of Finsbury, dated the 14th of December, 1554, from Michaelmas following, for ninety years, at a rent of £39 13s. 4d.; and, by indenture bearing date the 16th of February, 1568, John Spendlowe, then Prebendary of Haliwell and Finsbury, granted and let to farm the same for the term of seventy years, from the expiration of the term made in the former lease. It was at the same time agreed that the said Prebendary, for and in consideration of twenty fodder of lead, given by the said Mayor and Commonalty towards the repairs of St. Paul's Cathedral, should grant them an additional term of seventy years at the same rent.§

The first mention of archers mustering in Finsbury Fields occurs in the reign of Henry VIII., on the 2nd of April, 1520, when the Court of Aldermen ordered that the Bowmen should muster there on the following Tuesday afternoon.|| On the 12th of October, 1549, the Chamberlain was ordered to pay the trumpeter and two drummers five shillings "for their reward touching their pains taken at the muster of the harnessmen yesterday in Moorfields—that is to say, to each of them twenty-pence."¶

* Maitland, Vol. II., p. 1,369.

† Repertory, Vol. II., f. 128.

‡ Repertory, Vol. XIII., f. 207.

§ Maitland, Vol. II., p. 798. Highmore, p. 288.

|| Repertory, Vol. V., f. 278^b

¶ Idem, Vol. XII., f. 153.

The following year a meeting of a very different sort was threatened. On the 25th of September, 1550, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen wrote to inform the Privy Council* that, upon the dispersion of the garrisons beyond the seas and other parts of the realm, a number of soldiers had come to the city, and that, unless speedy means were taken to remove them to the country, there would be a disturbance, as they said they could and would not work, and if they could not obtain at the King's hands what they expected, in consideration of their long service to him and his predecessors, they would form themselves into companies, and meet together in some place, and set upon the citizens and their houses, and take their share of booty and spoil that they could lay hands on, and then depart from the city, and would not then care if ten thousand men come after them. They also say that if something is not ordered according to their expectations, they will turn all England upside down at their pleasure; and further state, that they have appointed Finsbury Fields as their place of muster. The Corporation, therefore, begged the Privy Council that speedy steps might be taken to prevent it, which was probably done, as no further mention is made of the affair.

During the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth "feats of shooting," or open competitions for archers, were held frequently, indeed, probably, annually, in Finsbury Fields, when prizes were awarded to the best marksmen. They generally took place in the months of July, August, or September; and notice of the event was given by the Lord Mayor previously by proclamation. On the 16th of September, 1572, the Court of Aldermen decided that the charges and costs of the game of shooting should be borne by the Sheriffs, instead of the Lord Mayor, as had been customary in olden times.†

The first of these meetings on record is that held on the 13th of September, 1521. The following is the form of Proclamation generally issued by the Lord Mayor on such occasions:—‡

* Journal, Vol. XVI., f. 91.

† Repertory, Vol. XVII., f. 367.

‡ Journal, Vol. XII., f. 134.

"A PROCLAMACON FOR SHOOTINGE IN FFYNNEBURYE FFELDE.

"BY THE MAIER.

"My Lorde Maier and my M^{rs}. the Aldermen of the Cite of London callinge to theme remembraunce the manyfolde benefits and comodities that have comen to this realme by the feate of archerie and showtinge in the longe bowe and wherby (God be thanked) this saide Realme hathe ever in tyme heretofore past ben defended against the cruell mallice and daunger of outwarde enymyes. And so from thensfurthe (God willinge) shalbe for ever, which saide feate of showtinge evye good true Englishe man is naturallie bounden to maynteyne supporte and upholde to the best of his power, and to thintent that the saide feate of archerie shulde be the better maynteyned and upholden to incorage the Kings subiects more and more to use and exercise the same, My saide Lorde Maier and M^{rs}. the Aldermen have appointed and fullie concluded That on Sondaie come sevenights which shalbe the xxixth daie of this present monethe of August shalbe a severall game of showtinge in the felde called ffynnesburie feld at ij of the clocke at afternone. And who will come thither and take a longe bowe in his hande havinge the standarde therin therefore provyded, and fairest drawethe clenliest deliverethe and farthest of grounde shootithe shall have for the best Game a Crowne of golde of the value of xiiij^s. iiij^d. or xiiij^s. iiij^d. in money therefore. And for the seconde game of the said Standarde he shall have a Crowne of Golde of the value of x^s. or x^s. in money therefore. And for the third game of the saide Standarde he shall have another Crowne of Golde of the value of vij^s. viij^d. or vij^s. viij^d. in money therefore. And for the best game of the bearinge arrowe he shall have an arrowe of golde of the value of xiiij^s. iiij^d. or xiiij^s. iiij^d. in money therefore. And for the seconde game of the saide Arrowe he shall have another Arrowe of Golde of the value of x^s. or x^s. in money therefore. And for the thirde game of the saide Arrowe he shall have one other Arrowe of Golde of the value of vij^s. viij^d. or vij^s. viij^d. in money therefore. And for the best game of the flight he shall have a flight of golde of the value of x^s. or x^s. in money therefore. And for the seconde game of the saide flight

he shall have a flight of golde of the value of viij^s. or viij^s. in money therefore. And for the thirde game of the saide flighte he shall have a flight of golde of the value of vj^s. or vj^s. in money therefore. And God saue the Kinge and Quene."

No person was allowed to approach near enough to be in danger of any shot, or stand within twenty yards of any of the stakes appointed for marks. Ignorance of the rules was not accepted as an excuse, and a trumpet was blown before each shot as a warning.

The above Proclamation was made in the reign of Philip and Mary, in 1557;* and similar ones were issued in the reign of Elizabeth, in 1564,† 1583,‡ 1589;§ and on the 19th of August, 1596, notice was also given of a meeting on Wednesday, the 30th of August, at two o'clock, the prize for the best game being a standard of gold, worth 13s. 4d. or the value in money.||

1539.—An interesting account of a muster of the City forces before Henry VIII., on the 8th of May, 1539, gives the following description of the proceedings:—¶

The king having been "lately informed by his trusty and faithful friends, that the cankered and venomous serpent Paul, Bishop of Rome, by that archtraitor Reynold Pole, enemy to God's word and his own natural country, had moved, excited and stirred divers great princes and potentates of Christendom," not only to invade the kingdom, but by fire and sword to destroy the whole nation.

Whereupon the king personally without delay took steps to have the coast fortified, and the Navy prepared for sea, and

* Journal, Vol. XVII., f. 46. and Letter Book S, ff. 147, 148.

† Journal, Vol. XVIII., f. 250b.

‡ Letter Book Z, f. 288.

§ Journal, Vol. XXII., f. 315.

|| Letter Book AA, f. 68.

¶ The True Order, Conduct, and Cause of the Muster which was made and showed before the Most High, Noble, and Puissant Prince, King Henry VIII. by the Citizens of London, the 8th of May, in the thirty-first year of his most noble and prosperous reign. MS. Guildhall Library, and Journal, Vol. XIV., f. 166. Stow describes this as occurring in 1532, which is an error. See Strype's Stow, Book V., p. 451; see also Grafton's Chronicle, pp. 1240-42.

issued commissions to have the people mustered, and all harness and weapons viewed so that everything should be in readiness. Amongst others a Commission was sent to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen to certify the number of men in the City between 21 and 60, and the number of harness and weapons. The Corporation were informed that the king's Highness "of his most gentle nature and loving affection that he bare his City and Chamber of London" would take the pains to see them muster, and so they decided that only able persons who had white harness with white coats, bows and arrows, halberds, bills, or poleaxes, and none others should appear, except such as bare "moryse pykes" or hand-gonnes, and white coats, and caps with feathers, and white hose cleanly shod.

Then every man of substance provided himself with a coat of silk, and garnished their bassenetts with turbes of silk, &c. Some had their harness and poleaxes gilt, and breastplates covered with silver bullion; the meaner sort had coats of white cotton, with the arms of the City before and behind. The Wyffelers and Minstrels were all in white, and so were the Standard-bearers, who were the tallest men in every ward, and carried thirty new standards, with the arms of the City thereon. Every Alderman inspected the men of his ward to see that they all had swords and daggers.

Before six in the morning, they mustered in the common field between Milend and Whitechapel, and all the gonnes, pikes, archers and billmen were collected into separate bodies and divided into three parts. It was a grand thing to behold, for all the fields from Whitechapel to Milend and from Bethnals Green to Ratcliff and Stephney were covered with men in bright harness and glistening weapons. About eight o'clock they marched out of the fields, thirteen pieces of light ordnance, carried on carts, with powder and stone, leading the way. These were followed by the two other divisions or battles, each consisting of a third of the pikes, archers, and billmen, and marched through the City to Westminster, where the king and all the nobility stood and beheld them as they passed through the Great Sanctuary at Westminster, round St. James's Park into a great field, so that the king, standing in

his gatehouse at Westminster could see them all. And the great gones and hand-gones when discharged shook very terribly. They returned through Holborn and Cheapside, where they did not arrive until about five o'clock.

THE FIELDS FOR ARCHERY.—The citizens of London appear always to have been well disposed towards the practice of Archery, in which they received every encouragement, more especially during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth. The fields which they were in the habit of using extended to Islington, Hoxton and Shoreditch, and they were accustomed to fix butts and targets there to shoot at. But as the inhabitants of those villages increased in number, they enclosed their grounds, which had been common fields, and thereby prevented the practice of Archery. This produced a serious contest, amounting (according to Grafton's Chronicles) to an insurrection, in the year 1514, in which the citizens practising Archery, tenacious of what they had long enjoyed as a right, assembled and destroyed all the fences.*

As London increased and land became more valuable, great difficulty was experienced in keeping such large tracts of land open for the purpose of shooting, and it is not surprising that the owners did all in their power to make the best use of their property, and threw every obstacle in the way of the Archers by removing their butts, and trying by means of hedges and ditches to drive them elsewhere. For many years they were unsuccessful, Archery being considered of such importance as a means of defence, that for the benefit of the nation at large it was always encouraged, and private interests had to suffer.

In 1561, Elizabeth found it necessary to issue Letters Patent, dated the 26th of November, in which, after reciting the laudable Statutes and Proclamations formerly made for the maintenance of Archery and Artillery, whereby the defence and safety of the realm had been greatly strengthened against foreign powers; and that as shooting could not then be so well carried out in consequence of persons having land about the City attempting

* Chamberlain, p. 183. Maitland, Vol. I., p. 223. Stow's Chron., p. 902.

to enclose it for their own advantage, without respect to others, and had thereby prevented the profitable exercise of shooting in such fields and closes as time out of mind had been used for that purpose, but had made banks, hedges and ditches, and removed the old marks, to hinder and discourage the exercise. The Queen being also informed that there would probably grow a great strait and want of room about the City, causing Archery to fall into disuse, and that other kinds of unlawful games to which many were inclined, "but which shall not in anywise be suffered."

Her Majesty therefore appointed Commissioners to survey all such ground within two miles' radius of any part of the City and suburbs which had formerly been used for shooting, and have it restored to the same condition it was in at the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII., at the cost of the owners, and within such time as they should think proper. All who resisted their authority were to be fined or imprisoned until they conformed to their orders.*

In April, 1665, the citizens petitioned the King to grant a Commission, as formerly had been done, to prevent the marks being destroyed, as the farmers not only did this, but also set dogs at them and were very insolent. Their request was granted, and a Commission ordered to be prepared, but there is no trace of one to be found in the Patent Rolls.†

THE ARTILLERY GARDEN.—A piece of ground was set aside at an early period for the use of shooting, which afterwards became famous as the Artillery Garden. It was originally a Roman Station and used by them as a field of Mars, for training the

* Similar Patents were issued by Elizabeth, dated 23rd April, 1570, and 20th August, 1596; also by James I., dated 1st February, 1605, and Charles I., dated 20th December, 1632. The copies of the Patents of James I. and Charles I., given by Blackwell in his *Military Discipline*, 1726, and by Highmore in his *History of the Company*, 1804, state that they were for the encouragement "of our Ancient Artillery Company"; and these two Patents have consequently frequently been quoted as confirming the Charter of the Company; but in the Original Rolls no mention is made of the Company by name. See Appendix C.

† Domestic (Chas. II.), Vol. CXVIII., No. 101. See Appendix C. No. 6.

British as well as the Roman youth, in the exercise of Arms.* It was afterwards a part of Lolesworth, or Spital-Fields, and the upper part of it was a Roman cemetery. After the establishment of the Christian Church it became part of the foundation of the convent of St. Mary Spittle, which was founded in 1197, but was surrendered afterwards to Henry VIII. It was a spacious enclosure, called Tassell's Close,† from the tassel which was planted there for the use of the clothworkers, by whom it was used for raising the knap on cloth, and carding wool.

A Writ was issued by Edward II., dated 30th of May, 1326, from Saltwood, near Hythe, in Kent, to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London, forbidding the exportations of teasels and fullers' earth—"desire that none of the thistles that in English are called taseles, and no fullers' earth shall be carried out of the kingdom."‡ The ground was afterwards let to the Crossbow Makers, where they used to shoot at the game of popinjay.

THE FRATERNITY OF ARTILLERY.—In 1537, William Major, the last Prior of the Convent of St. Mary Spittle, gave a lease of this ground for thrice ninety-nine years for the use and practice of great and small artillery.§

The Charter granted by Henry VIII. to the Fraternity of Artillery, or Gunners of the Tower, appointed this field to be their place of exercise, the lease being held by Sir William Pelham, Lieutenant of the Ordnance. This Charter was afterwards delivered to Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer to Elizabeth, and appears to have been lost.

This "Fraternity of Artillery in Great and Small Ordnance" must not be confounded with the "Fraternity or Guild of St. George," as the Artillery Company was then called, although they were at first so closely associated; both being incorporated in the same year, and using the same ground in common for their exercise.

* Leland's Collect., Vol. I., p. 61. Ellis's Shoreditch, pp. 156-9.

† Stow, Vol. I., Book II., pp. 96, 97. Maitland, Vol. II., p. 798.

‡ Letter Book E, f. 168 (Latin). See Riley's Memorials of London, pp. 150, 151.

§ Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CLIX., No. 97.

William Thomas, the Master-Gunner of England, was very active in trying to maintain the powers and reputation of these "Gunners of the Tower," by which name they were then generally known. All the men who came there to learn were solemnly sworn not to teach any foreigner or alien this art, nor to serve any foreign prince, without the leave or commandment of the King of England, their sovereign Lord.*

In 1581, in a petition to the Queen, he states that the Gunners of the Tower of London, and the Navy, which they supplied, were almost the only gunners in the kingdom skilful in the science and knowledge of shooting with great ordnance. The Navy required eight hundred gunners to complete it for service, but fourscore able men could not be found to supply their place; and when one of the Queen's ships of 400 tons was required for service, thirty-six gunners were wanted, amongst whom six able men could not be found, as they were all pressed men and altogether unskilful. To reform this state of things he suggested that the Master-Gunner of the Kingdom, with four of the most experienced gunners in the Tower, should have powers to send deputies to the principal seaport towns, viz., Falmouth, Plymouth, Dartmouth, Lyme, Bristol, Chichester, Poole, Portsmouth, Berwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Hull, Boston, and Yarmouth; and that they should be empowered to test the skill of persons, and take charge as master-gunner of any ship. A Register ought also to be kept of all qualified persons, and licences granted to them to continue in their posts, so that no one could serve on any ship as master-gunner without a certificate. He also proposed that for the future every ship of 60 tons and upwards should carry two gunners, 100 tons four gunners, and one gunner for every additional 60 tons.

At Michaelmas every year all the gunners were to be required to appear at the Tower, and give in their names, and

* Strype's Stow, Book II., pp. 96, 97. Stow gives a long and interesting account of the Ordnance Office and the various offices at the Tower, Vol. I., pp. 104-8

afterwards assemble in the Artillery Garden upon an appointed day, and in the presence of the Master-Gunner prove their knowledge and cunning in the use of great and small ordnance.*

1582.—The following year, the Master-Gunner, William Thomas, drew up a number of articles similar to the proposition above quoted, showing the want of trained artillery men, and the necessity for the incorporation of a Company of Gunners; this he followed up with a summary of what the proposed charter should contain and confer, which was almost identical with the one granted to the Artillery Company, and evidently copied from it; but he does not seem to have been successful in his endeavours, and, after having long sought for an opportunity to appeal to the Privy Council in person without success, he presented his reasons in writing, praying that the Charter granted to the Fraternity of Artillery by Henry VIII. might be confirmed, with certain needful additions.†

CAPTAINS OF THE ARTILLERY GARDEN.—During the long reign of Elizabeth, the City having been greatly troubled, and charged with continual musters and training of soldiers, many gallant, active, and forward citizens, who had had experience, both at home and abroad, voluntarily enrolled themselves in the Company in 1585, and trained up others for the wars, so that within the space of two years there were about three hundred merchants, and others of like quality, very sufficient and skilful, to train and teach common soldiers the management of their pieces, pikes, and halberds; to march, countermarch, and ring; who, for their own perfecting in military affairs and discipline, met every Thursday in the year, practising all usual points of war, and every man, by turns, bore office, from the

* Domestic (Eliz.), Vol. CXLVII., Nos. 94, 95; See Appendix D, Nos. 1 and 2.

† Idem, Vol. CLVII., Nos. 40, 41, and 42. See Appendix D, Nos. 3, 4 and 5. Howe's Continuation of Stow, pp. 699, 700, and Strype's Stow, Book II., pp. 96, 97. Maitland, Vol. II., p. 798.

Corporal to the Captain. Some of them afterwards, in the dangerous year 1588, had charge of men in the great camp at Tilbury, and were generally called Captains of the Artillery Garden.*

1585-88.—Very important services were rendered to Queen Elizabeth by the Company at this critical period; when the storm which had gathered in Spain, and threatened the entire destruction of the government and constitution of England, called forth all the active energies of the people. Divers citizens of London, who were members of this Company in 1585, were chosen from it, and, to their great honour, were appointed, by order of the Queen in Council, to the rank of officers in several parts of the kingdom; and it was by their care and indefatigable application that the Trained Bands in most parts of the country were put into a good state of defence.†

THE CITY FORCES.—The City of London, at the same time, not less mindful of the common safety (the more effectually to prevent any sudden and traitorous attempts of the enemies to the Government in favour of the Spaniards), framed some regulations, in 1586, for registering all citizens capable of service, and dividing them into companies, divisions, and sections, and appointed places of rendezvous. They also established day and night watches, and took other precautions, which were submitted to the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and such other grave persons in the City as they chose to assist them. Edmund York, a gentleman, who had acquired great knowledge of tactics by service in the Low Countries, formed, at the desire of the Privy Council, a more enlarged and methodical arrangement for marshalling and ordering the military forces of the City, which bears date March, 1588.‡

1591.—The first Order in Council relating to the Company is dated from Whitehall, the 20th of November, 1591, and is

* Strype's Stow, Vol. II., Book V., p. 457.

† Highmore, p. 49; Maitland, Vol. II., p. 1,226.

Maitland, Vol. II., pp. 1,226-31; Strype's Stow, Book V., pp. 453-6.

addressed to the Lord Mayor of London and his brethren, requiring, as the Artillery Yard belonging to the City was made for the training of young gentlemen in London, and had been lately discontinued, that the same was to be forthwith renewed, it being a matter of importance for the common weal.*

1596.—A letter from the Lords of the Council, dated from the Court at Richmond, 31st October, 1596, to the Lord Mayor, states that directions had been given to the Lieutenants of the maritime and inland counties to have in readiness a number of men well armed, to protect the havens and places of descent on the coast, and directed the City to provide 3,000 men, to be sent to the Lieutenants of the counties of Kent and Essex, if the enemy should attempt to land their forces in those counties; and that the forces to be raised should be put into *bands*, to be led by some of the principal gentlemen of the City. With every thousand foot one hundred pioneers were to be furnished, with intrenching tools; also a good supply of powder, lead, matches, provisions, and carts, with small nags to carry their arms, &c.. also a reasonable number of horsemen, with lances, staves, or petronels. These were to be furnished with all diligence, as her Majesty had been credibly informed that the King of Spain, moved with the shame and disgrace done to him in his own kingdom by Her Majesty's Army in the enterprise at Calais, had resolved to take some speedy revenge, and had made great preparation of shipping and forces at Lisbon and other parts of Spain for that purpose.†

On the 3rd of November, 1596, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Council, praying them to reconsider their demands, and alleging that in the year 1588, the City only furnished 1,000 men out of the 10,000 ordered to be sent by them to Tilbury, the citizens being very dissatisfied, seeing no fruit at all nor any part of the principal of £19,000, spent by them in the late successful

* Council Register, Eliz., Vol. X., p. 59.

† Remembrancia, Vol. II., No. 56. See Motley's United Netherlands Vol. III., chap. 32, pp. 367-421.

expedition to Calais.* But the Council replied, on the 8th November, directing them, being the chief city of the whole realm, and in wealth far exceeding many of the rest, to raise 10,000 men as they did in 1588, well armed, to assist the forces, in Kent and Essex, in the defence of the coast.†

Upon which the Corporation gave certain reasons to induce a rebatement of the number of ships and trained soldiers required, to the number supplied in 1588.‡

1597.—The Queen, by Letters Patent, dated the 8th of June, 1597, appointed certain Commissioners to ascertain the boundaries of the City of London, and the Tower, and to report the same by the 20th of December.§

1598.—The defeat of the Armada restored these active citizens to their civil rights and occupations, and they discontinued the frequent exercises which they had so long practised; but the Artillery Company continued to thrive during the remaining years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; for many of the nobility, the Lord Mayor, and most of the Aldermen, and all the commanders and commissioned officers of the Trained Bands and Auxiliaries, exercised arms in the Artillery Garden, the whole Company consisting, in 1598, of six hundred men.||

1600.—In April, 1600, the Lord Mayor applied to the Privy Council for permission to appoint a competent number of discreet freemen to be instructed “how to use themselves and their weapons in warlike manner,” so as to be able to lead the rest for the defence of the City.¶

1601.—On the 6th of January, 1601, the Queen issued a warrant for levying 500 men from the Trained Bands, to be armed and provisioned at the expense of Her Majesty, for employment in

* Remembrancia, Vol. II., No. 58. † Idem, No. 61. ‡ Idem, No. 140.

§ Tanner MSS., Vol. 168 (Miscellaneous, No. 1), p. 24. Bodleian Library.

|| Highmore, p. 50.

¶ Remembrancia, Vol. II., No. 173.

Ireland, on account of the invasion of that kingdom by the Spaniards; and the following day orders were received for them to embark at Bristol.*

The Trained Bands had plenty of employment at this time, both within the City as well as abroad. On the 30th of June the Aldermen ordered that the City Captains should be paid £200 for themselves and their officers, for their services within the City during the rebellion of the Earl of Essex.†

* Remembrancia, Vol. II., Nos. 185 and 186.

† Repertory, Vol. 25, f. 247.

CHAPTER III.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY DURING THE REIGN OF
JAMES I.

FROM 1603 TO 1625.

CONTENTS.—Petition of Bowyers and Fletchers.—Revival of Military Exercises by the Company.—The Armourers' Company.—Number limited to 250.—Uppermost Field in Finsbury granted for their use, 1614.—Increased to 500 by Privy Council.—Capt. Panton's Dispute, 1616.—His Appeals to Privy Council.—Master Gunner claims Artillery Garden.—Capt. Panton's Case referred to Lord Justice and others.—Their Report thereon, 1619.—Capt. Bingham elected *vice* Panton.—First Grant to Company by Corporation, 1620.—Artillery Yard at Colchester.—The Musters in Finsbury and St. James's Fields.—The Disputed Right to the Artillery Garden.—Petition of Lieutenant of Ordnance to the King, 1624.

DURING the last four years of the long reign of Elizabeth, and for nearly two years after James I. had succeeded to the throne, little or nothing remains to show the condition of the Company.

1604.—On the 6th of December, 1604, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Lord High Treasurer, and Lord Chancellor, enclosing a petition from the Bowyers and Fletchers, "and other poor companies belonging to Archery," complaining of the great disorders and abuses which, by reason of certain Letters Patent formerly granted under a pretence of maintaining the exercise of shooting, there were daily unlawful games in common bowling alleys. They were informed that the Patent was about to be renewed to Mr. Cornwallis, "a Trompeter" of His Majesty's household, who had exhibited a petition in the names

of the poor companies, in favour of the renewal, entirely without their consent. These games were daily resorted to, especially by the younger sort and apprentices, the result being beggary and ruin to many citizens who used and frequented such places. They therefore humbly desired their Lordships with their usual consideration for the well-being of the City to prevent the said Letters being passed under the Great Seal until His Highness had been informed of the inconvenience and abuses thereof.*

1605.—But they were unsuccessful in their endeavours, for, on the 1st of February, the King granted a Patent, confirming those granted by Elizabeth for preserving the fields about London for archery, and in precisely similar terms.†

1610.—Stow mentions that in this year Philip Hudson, a Lieutenant in the Company, Thomas Laverock, Robert Hughes, Samuel Arthois, Robert Greenhurst, and divers other members, took active measures to revive the practice of the military exercises and discipline which had apparently been much neglected for some years past.‡

This fact is partly borne out by the Great Vellum Book, the earliest record the Company now possesses, which commences in this year, and contains all the above names, but in some cases the orthography differs.

1612.—In this year they applied to the Privy Council for permission to assemble, so as to prevent all future misconstruction of their honest intentions and actions there; and undertook, at their own private charge, to have a weekly exercise after the modern and best fashion and instruction then in use; and in order to encourage the practice of the art they erected a handsome armoury, and furnished it with several sorts of arms of such extraordinary beauty, fashion, and goodness for service, as were hardly to be matched elsewhere.§

* Remembrancia, Vol. II., No. 249.

† See pp. 29, 30, and Appendix C, No. 4.

‡ Howe's Stow, pp. 906, 907, and Strype's Stow, Book V., pp. 456, 457.

§ Idem, p. 457. Highmore, pp. 54, 55.

The Privy Council granted their request on the 3rd of July, and issued an Order of that date stating that a petition having been presented to them by divers citizens of London, declaring that the example of other flourishing cities and states in foreign parts, together with certain worthy citizens who had hitherto exercised arms, had moved the petitioners with like zeal and affection to do His Majesty and their country service by applying themselves to some laudable exercise to improve their knowledge and experience in the use of arms. And in order to avoid incurring any danger of infringing the laws for the restraint of armed assemblies, they applied to the Council for permission to exercise arms and be instructed in military discipline in the Artillery Garden, or any other convenient place in or near the city, under such commanders and officers as they should chose. Their Lordships having considered their request, and being informed by the Recorder that they were men of good means and well affected, and that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen approved of their endeavours, saw no objection to their being trained by Captain Edward Panton,* or such others as were thought fit to instruct them; and that, subject to the approval of the Lord Mayor, they might admit any citizens to the Company, and chose any officers, provided their number did not exceed 250.†

On the 8th of December the Captain and President of the Society practising arms in the Artillery Garden, near London, applied to the Armourers to grant them the use of their Hall, kitchen, and other offices, for their feasts and other general assemblies, and also for holding their Courts at such times as they required. The Society not only offered to pay to the Masters and Wardens of the Company any reason-

* Capt. Edward Panton (?) was a common adventurer, who, finding the trade of evidence so successfully carried on by Oates, Bedloe, Dugdale, and other desperate characters, seemed to have been determined not to remain idle while so much good employment might be obtained at the trifling expense of a few false oaths. He made a large fortune by gambling, and acquired property on which he built Panton Street and Square, in the neighbourhood of Leicester Fields. (Caulfield's *Memoirs of Remarkable Persons*, pp. 238, 239.)

† Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. LXX., No. 3. See Appendix B, No. 2.

able consideration, but also promised to provide and furnish themselves with all manner of provisions, such as brass, pewter, spits, linen, plate, and all other necessities, and to make ample satisfaction for all manner of goods, implements and necessities, and household stuff belonging to the Armourers, which should be spoiled or defaced at any time by them or their servants.

The Masters, Wardens and Assistants, after duly considering their offer, and being desirous to comply with their request as far as possible, granted their application for the yearly rent of £3 6s. 8d., to be paid quarterly viz. 40s. for the use of the Fraternity of Armourers, and 26s. 8d. to the Beadle, for his attendance and pains at every meeting of the Governors and Assistants of the Society. They might therefore have free use of the Hall (except at such times as it was required by the Armourers themselves), on giving six days' notice beforehand. This agreement was to remain in force for one year, and as long after as the Masters and Wardens of the Armourers' Company should think fit.*

1613.—On the 6th of May, Sir Thomas Lowe, and others, the Committee appointed by the Court of Aldermen for Martial

* Court Book (1559-1621) of Armourers' Company, pp. 727, 728.

NOTE.—The Armourers' Company was incorporated by Henry VI., on the 8th of May, 1432, under the title of "The Masters, Wardens, and Brethren and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild of Saint George, of the men of the Mystery of Armourers of the City of London." It was confirmed by James I. on 29th of September, 1619, and by James II. on 12th of May, 1686 (see *Charters of City Companies*, pp. 87-92, in Record Office, Guildhall). Queen Anne, on 17th of June, 1708, gave them a new charter as the *Armourers and Braziers*. They established themselves on the site where their Hall now stands, at the corner of London Wall and Coleman Street, in 1428.

There appears to have been another Guild of St. George, mention being made of one in the King's Book of Payments between April, 1509, and April, 1515, in which entries several times appear for the payment of 13s. 4d. to the "Fraternity of Saint George's Guild," in some cases with the word "Southwark" after it; but there is nothing to show what Guild this was, or on what account the payments were made. See *Printed Calender, State Papers, Domestic (Henry VIII.)*, Vol. II., Part II., pp. 1,441-71; also a duplicate copy in the British Museum, Additional MSS., No. 21,481.

Business within the City, reported to the Court that they had elected and chosen Richard Morris, Captain, and Peter Hudson to be Lieutenant, of the Society practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, of whose election the Court approved.*

The Court directed the Chamberlain, on the 6th of July, to pay forthwith to Captain Edward Panton the sum of £40, and to Richard Morris, and Philip Hudson, Lieutenant, the sum of twenty marks apiece, as the free gift of the Court, for their care and pains taken with the Society practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, and for the better supporting and encouraging of the said Society.†

1614.—The Society of Arms in the Artillery Garden, near London, presented a petition, on the 10th of February, desiring, for some reasons therein expressed, to have some convenient place assigned to them within the City, to exercise in, and likewise some safe place appointed for the custody of their armour and munitions. Whereupon a committee of the Aldermen was appointed to meet forthwith and take into consideration the said petition, and confer with the committee for letting the lands and tenements belonging to Gresham College, for a fit place to keep their armour and munitions in, and to certify to the Court in writing of their having done so.‡

The Committee presented their report, dated Monday, the 11th of May, to the Court of Aldermen on the following day, stating that the Society practising Arms in the Artillery Garden had applied for a convenient place for exercise, &c., and, after mature consideration, they came to the conclusion that, for the continuance of so commendable an exercise, so worthily undertaken for the honour of this City by the gentlemen of the said Society, they thought that the uppermost field near Finsbury was the most convenient place for the exercise of arms that the City afforded, in which place (if it appeared unto the Court that the said exercise might be continued without hurt or danger of

* Repertory, Vol. XXXI., Part I., f. 94.

† Idem, f. 125.

Idem, Vol. XXXI., Part II., f. 258.

passengers) they earnestly desired that his Lordship and the Court would be pleased to grant them the use of the said field for the practice of arms during the good liking of his Lordship and the honourable Court.

The report, being openly read, "was well liked and allowed of," and ordered to be in all things observed accordingly.*

Upon the humble petition of Captain Richard Morris and Philip Hudson, Lieutenant, the Court of Aldermen, on the 24th of September, ordered the Chamberlain to pay them £26 13s. 4d. each, as a gift from the Court in regard of their pains taken in the instructing and training the youth of the City in military discipline, and for their better encouragement to continue the same; the allowance to be paid to them yearly during the pleasure of the Court.†

On the 16th of November the Company presented a petition to the Court of Aldermen, reciting that, on the 3rd of July, 1612, it had pleased the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, in their honorable and worthy disposition towards their exercise, and for the reviving of the practice of arms, to license and authorise the petitioners, for their better experience in the use of arms, to train in any place in or near the City, so as their number should not exceed 250. This number was now complete, and although divers of the better sort of citizens of the best means and quality were desirous to be admitted into the Company, for their better instructing in military discipline, they could not safely receive them into their Company without danger of incurring a contempt of their Lordships' Order. They therefore humbly prayed the Court would be pleased, for the advancement of this worthy exercise, to recommend their humble petition unto the Council, that their Company might be augmented to such a competent number as their Lordships should think convenient; and that none should be admitted but such as were known to be of good means, and soundly and religiously affected to the King and State, and approved of by the Court of Aldermen. Whereupon the Court, much

* Repertory, Vol. XXXI., Part II., f. 313, and Letter Book EE, f. 242.

† Idem, Vol. XXXI., Part II., f. 419.

commending the practice of arms, and conceiving their suit to be very reasonable and honest, ordered that the City Remembrancer should forthwith send a letter to the Privy Council as requested.*

On the 11th of December the Recorder applied to the Privy Council, stating that many other citizens of the best sort and quality, having seen by experience, during the last two years, the great good and benefit which ensued from the training and exercise of the said Company, desired to be admitted into it; but the Company, being full, were unable to receive them. He therefore, in the name of the whole City, humbly requested that the number might be increased to 500, which the Council sanctioned, provided that none should be admitted but such as were known to be of good means and well affected in religion, and to His Majesty, and were approved of by the Court of Aldermen, who were to establish such rules for the good government of the Company as should be thought meet.†

The Company was now grown great and in good estimation; and not only Prince Charles, but also many country gentlemen of all shires resorted to the Artillery Garden, and diligently observed their exercises, which they saw were excellent; and returning home to their own countries, practised and used the same with their trained bands.‡

1615.—In the the Court of Aldermen on the 23rd of January, it was ordered that, as Capt. Panton was formerly granted £40, and Lieut. Morris and Lieut. Hudson twenty marks each yearly, as a gift from the Court, that Capt. Panton should be paid £60 at once, being his allowance for a year and a half; and the Lieutenants the arrears remaining unpaid up to Christmas last, and from thenceforth the payment was to cease.

On the 26th of January Capt. Panton was ordered to bring to the Court of Aldermen, on the following Tuesday, the list of

* Repertory, Vol. XXXII, f. 9.

† Council Register (Jas. I.), Vol. I., f. 251. See Appendix B, No. 3.

‡ Stow, Book II., p. 457. Highmore, p. 55.

names of all those under his conduct and leading in the Artillery Garden.

A Committee was appointed, on the 26th of April, to confer immediately with the Clothworkers, who held "Taynters" in the Upper Moorfields, regarding some reasonable compensation for their removal from thence. At the same Court certain propositions or articles were submitted, by the Society of the Artillery Garden, to be confirmed, for their better establishment and government in the practice and exercise of arms in or about the City; and it was agreed to recommend them to the next Common Council.

The mud wall by the Tainters and windmill was ordered to be pulled down, at a Court of Aldermen held on the 26th of June, and the soil in the Little Moorfields carried away.

From this date Capt. Panton and the Society practising in the Artillery Garden were ordered to suspend their training and meeting until further orders were given for some special reason. On the 6th of July, Capt. Panton, and divers of the Society, humbly prayed that they might be admitted to exercise as formerly, and upon their promising to behave in an orderly manner to the Government of the city, the former order was rescinded.*

1616.—On the first of January a grant was made to Sir Richard Morrison, of the Lieutenancy of the Ordnance, and keeping of the Store-houses near Aldgate, and the Artillery Garden, for life.†

On the last day in February the Remembrancer wrote to the Privy Council, recommending for their favourable consideration the Petition presented by the Society of the Artillery Garden, to be permitted to continue their exercises there.‡

On the 17th of March, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen recommended a complaint, presented by the Society of Arms, practising in the Teazell Ground, then called the Artillery Garden, showing that, according to ancient custom, and by a lease (for

* Repertory, Vol. XXXII., f. 43, 46, 100, 136, 141.

† Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. LXXXVI., No. 1, and Grant Book, p. 165.

‡ Repertory, Vol. XXXII., f. 253.

many years to come) granted by the Prior and Convent of St. Mary's, Spittal, to the Fraternity or Guild of Artillery, using hand-guns, long-bows, and cross-bows, and other martial weapons, and confirmed since by his Majesty unto William Hammond, Esq., his Majesty's Master-Gunner, of England, for the sole use above mentioned and no other. The Company had, for the space of almost five years, by licence and order from the Board, trained there without contradiction of any. But William Hammond pretended that the sole right in the property and estate belonged to him, and would not admit their claim to exercise there; forbidding their servants and armourers to clean and repair their arms there contrary to the meaning of the lease. The truth of these allegations appeared by affidavit made before the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, to whose order the lessee is, by the covenant in the lease from his Majesty, to submit himself upon any controversy concerning the premises.

The Barons, for the reasons above given, required him not to disturb the Society or any of their servants, armourers, or gun-makers, in the exercise of their arms in the said place, but by all in his power to aid and assist them, until, by a Bill to be exhibited on his behalf in the Court of Exchequer, other orders should be given in the cause.

The said Hammond was then called before the Board, and charged by the petitioner (also present) that, notwithstanding the said order and directions, he continued obstinate and would not permit them to exercise in the ground; to which he replied by insisting on the validity of the lease, and did not hold himself tied to give them any such liberty as was claimed without some rent or other consideration being given him by the Society. Their Lordships, considering this answer frivolous and insufficient to excuse him for not obeying the order or warrant of the Barons, commanded him, upon his duty and allegiance, to submit thereto, and to fulfil it in all points. And in the meantime, until the matter was judicially heard and determined as prescribed in the warrant, that he was not to presume to demand anything by way of fine, rent, or other consideration from the Society for the use of the ground by them or their servants; and any of their arms which

he had detained were to be immediately given up, as he would have to answer to the contrary.*

A disagreement arose between Captain Panton, Captain Bingham, and the members of the Company, in this year, which continued for a long period, during which time frequent applications were made to the Privy Council on the subject. Early in the year, probably in February, Captain Panton petitioned the Privy Council, setting forth that, during the last five years, at the earnest request of divers citizens of London, he undertook the leading and exercising of the Society of Arms, practising in the Artillery Garden, which, to his great charge and excessive labour, he reduced to that form and state as it then stood, having first procured their Lordships' leave to enrol persons not exceeding the number of 250. The then Lord Mayor and the Corporation gave great encouragement thereunto, and, in testimony of their grateful acceptance of his services therein, made him a freeman of London, and withal ordained a yearly pension of £40 to be paid him out of the Chamber of London, promising, upon further approbation of his care and endeavour therein, to enlarge their liberality towards him. But since their last musters the Court of Aldermen, finding the great honour and safety redounding thereby to the City, themselves became suitors to the Privy Council for the increase of that number, and it had pleased their honours, upon Mr. Recorder's motion, to authorise the number of 500 of the better sort of citizens to be trained by the petitioner, in or near the City of London. After so many years' acceptable and beneficial service to the City at his great expenses, the Court of Aldermen refused to pay him any longer £40, or any other satisfaction, for his time and the expenditure of his means. And as by their Lordships' letter, dated the 30th of November, to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, concerning the mustering and training of the 6,000 citizens, advising them to use the assistance of some man of experience in furnishing the companies with fit arms, according to the modern use of other nations, in their training and discipline, as should be most beneficial for the practice of their arms, and advancement of that

* Council Register (Jas. I). Vol. II., p. 196.

service. He therefore prayed their Lordships, in regard for his past services, to nominate and recommend him for the place, and to direct the Lord Mayor and Aldermen to appoint him, with such fees as the Privy Council should think proper for an officer of that quality.*

On the 4th of April the Lord Mayor and Aldermen wrote to the Privy Council, in reply to Captain Panton's petition, which had been sent to them for consideration. First, they said, it seemed that the petitioner complained of them, pretending that he had heretofore a yearly pension of £40, granted unto him out of the Chamber of the City, which was then denied him. Secondly, he had made a request to their Lordships to be recommended to them to be the City's Officer to oversee the arms; and, for his merit, he alleged his labour and painstaking in training the citizens that practised arms in the Artillery Garden. Their Lordships might vouchsafe to be informed, that such as came to be trained in that place were but as voluntary scholars to Captain Panton, and followed the practice of arms only for their pleasure. Howbeit, every particular man of his company (as they are informed) respecteth his pains, more or less, with some consideration, which, by the increase to 500, had become double as much to him. For their parts, they had also been benevolent unto him out of the City's purse; but they never (as he pretended) granted him any yearly pension, neither had they reason to charge the City, either with any pension to a captain, or with the employment of any officer to oversee the City arms. For, as in times past, upon all necessary occasions of levies of soldiers, their predecessors had always carefully performed the will and pleasure of their Sovereigns and the directions of the honorable Board, without the help of any such officer. With their Lordships' approbation, they had quartered the City, and had appointed colonels over the several City captains, who would take the whole care upon themselves, and see that their companies of the City were furnished with serviceable and proper arms. They hoped their Lordships would see that there was much

* Remembrancia, Vol. IV., No. 24.

less cause now to burden the City with any such officer, neither would the citizens be content to have such an officer over them !” *

It was not long before the Privy Council were again appealed to, but on a more important subject, viz., the right of the Company to the Artillery Garden, which for a long time was a cause of contention. On the 3rd of May, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen wrote to the Council, enclosing a petition from the Society of Citizens Practising Arms and Military Discipline, complaining that William Hammond, His Majesty's Master-Gunner of England, had lately restrained them from using the Artillery Garden, and would not suffer them to exercise there any longer, or allow their servants and armourers to repair their armour, or mend and clean their arms, without paying him a great rent for the use of the ground, which had never been demanded before. It was only lately that Hammond had obtained a grant from His Majesty of the ground, which was intended by the Master-Gunner to be for the use of the Society, and he had influenced them on that plea to join with him in writing; but when he had obtained the grant he pretended that the whole property and right in the ground belonged to him.

The Company had therefore complained to the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, who, upon sight of the grant (whereby it appeared that upon any controversy happening concerning the premises he was to submit himself to the order of the said Barons), and also of a Certificate from Sir Francis Bacon, Knight, Attorney-General (whereby it was conceived that Hammond's grant was intended for the use of the said Society, and not for his own benefit); the Barons, by Warrant under their hands, did command and require the said Hammond to forbear interrupting the petitioners in the use of the place until he exhibited a Bill in the Court of Exchequer, or other order should be taken in the cause.

Notwithstanding this Warrant, Hammond continued obstinate, and would not permit the petitioners to continue their exercises in the ground. As the petitioners were citizens of

* Remembrancia, Vol. IV., No. 25.

good worth, and out of zeal and affection, to enable themselves to do His Majesty and their country service, applied themselves to the exercise of arms, they (the Corporation) thought fit to recommend their petition to the Council's consideration. By an Order of that Board, dated the 3rd of July, 1612,* the Society, and their exercise of arms was approved of in any place in or near the City; and as they knew of no place so fit for that purpose as the Artillery Garden (to prevent which would be likely to frustrate so commendable an exercise), they humbly prayed the Council to issue an order for the petitioners to be freely permitted to use the ground, according to the Warrant of the said Barons, until the differences between them were heard and determined in the Court of Exchequer.†

1618.—Captain Panton having been suspended by the Court of Aldermen, they, at the request of divers members of the Society, who were present at a Court on the 15th of December, publicly declared their dislike of his behaviour, as, since his suspension, he had neglected his duties; he was therefore discharged from his place in the Artillery Garden in the exercise and training of that Society in harness.‡

On the 31st of December the Society of the Artillery Garden presented three officers (Captain Bingham being one) to the Court to be put in election in place of Captain Panton; and, after receiving good testimony from divers persons touching his breeding and efficiency, he was duly elected to be the leader in the Artillery Garden during the Court's pleasure.§

1619.—These proceedings led to further appeals to the Privy Council; and, early in January, Captain Panton again petitioned the Council to uphold him, as he had for the past seven years by their authority, trained the Society of Arms in the Artillery Garden, to his great charge, loss of time, and excessive labour; by which he had enabled divers of the said Company to become officers and leaders to discipline the Trained Bands of

* See page 40, and Appendix B, No. 2.

† Remembrancia, Vol. IV., No. 29.

‡ Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 24.

§ Idem, f. 27; and Letter Book GG, f. 123b.

the City, not only to the great honour and safety of the same, but also to the saving of the City's purse, who otherwise must of necessity have been at the charge for the entertainment of officers to have taught their Trained Bands the use of their arms. Although he had served so many years as Captain of the Company, and with their approval and authority, the Court of Aldermen had lately suspended him from the execution of his place, to his great discredit; but upon what grounds he knew not. By this the Company was likely to be dissolved, the greater number thereof having already refused to carry arms, and ceased their practice. He therefore prayed that, in consideration of his care and industry, which he had always used for the upholding of the Company and that worthy exercise, that they would order him to be reinstated until the Court of Aldermen had shown good cause to the contrary, or against his life or behaviour.*

The Privy Council immediately complied with his request, and at a meeting of the Council, on the 5th of January, they issued an order that, as Capt. Panton had for several years past by their authority exercised and trained the Society of Arms in the Artillery Garden, in which charge he had hitherto not only demeaned himself without blame, but that they had good testimony of his pains, and commendable endeavours in the performance of his duties; and being informed that the Aldermen had suspended him, without informing him on what grounds—he having been placed there by authority of the Council, it therefore appertained unto them to displace him if there was sufficient cause, with which their Lordships ought first to have been made acquainted. They therefore ordered the petitioner to be sent immediately to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen for an explanation, and for the reasons of their proceedings, of which the Council would judge, and decide whether to continue or remove him. In the meantime Capt. Panton was to retain his place as before without prejudice or hindrance in the execution of his office until their answer was returned.†

* Remembrancia, Vol. V., No. 5.

† Idem, Vol. V., No. 6, and Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., p. 71.

On the 19th of January it was stated, at a Court of Aldermen that, although Capt. Panton had been dismissed as leader, he had summoned members to train that afternoon under him in the Artillery Garden. It was therefore decided that no more training should be held either by Capt. Panton or Capt. Bingham, until further orders. A Committee was at the same time formed, with the Recorder, to inform the Privy Council of the reasons and grounds upon which Capt. Panton was displaced.*

On Sunday, the 31st of January, the Court of Aldermen returned their answer to the Privy Council regarding Capt. Panton's complaint, charging him with neglect of duty, misdemeanours, and abuses of the Company. The Council desired further impartial evidence against him, and reproved the Aldermen for electing a new officer without first acquainting them. They then referred the question to the Lord Chief Justice, Sir H. Vere, and Sir Edward Conway to report on, "for the honor of the Board and the reasonable satisfaction of the Company," which their Lordships were inclined to encourage in so laudable an exercise by all good means that might be.†

The report of the Lord Chief Justice (which is dated the 21st of February, and signed by H. Montague, Edward Conway, and H. Vere) states that they had before them Capt. Panton, and divers citizens of good sort, and entered upon the examination prescribed by their Lordships; but soon found by the divided affection of the men of the Company what a distraction it would make—some charging him, and others defending him; and so by proving and disproving it was likely to grow to a rent, if not a disbanding of the Company. They therefore proposed that both parties should leave the case in their hands, and do what they directed, provided it was approved of by the Privy Council, to which they readily agreed.

Upon consideration of the whole matter they submitted the following opinion:—

Firstly, That the City had taken upon themselves to settle Capt. Panton's case, but had no right to displace or elect the Captain without informing the Privy Council.

* Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 35.

† Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., p. 83.

Secondly, That the Company should be encouraged in their exercise by every possible means.

Thirdly, That the reputation of a soldier might be so wounded by personal accusations that it might render him unworthy of any employment afterwards; therefore he should not be examined upon all his doings. Two persons who "professed arms" bore witness that they had seen his training and the ordering of his men, which proved his discipline and teaching to be as good as they had seen in Trained Bands anywhere.

Fourthly, To the end that neither Capt. Panton nor Capt. Bingham should either of them seem wronged, "they wished, and it was well liked, that the place should be cleared of them both for a time," and that the Company might elect from any whom the Council might recommend to them.

They suggested that three should be nominated, including Capt. Panton and Capt. Bingham, and that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, assisted by the City Captain, should choose one of them for the place. This course they found pleasing to all parties. And although Capt. Panton might not be chosen, yet the Lord Chief Justice would arrange with the City to satisfy him and clear his reputation.*

But the Company were still discontented, and petitioned the Council, setting forth that they had already presented a petition to the Council on Sunday, the 31st of January, regarding the distractions of the Company; which their Lordships had referred to the Lord Chief Justice and others, who, as they were informed, had sent their opinions on the subject to the Council. The petitioners being desirous to uphold so laudable and necessary an exercise if it met with their Lordships' approbation, and finding that they were inclined to encourage them, it had emboldened them once again to trouble them, seeing that the present condition of the Company required that some speedy steps should be taken to settle it again. They hoped that as, at their great cost and charge, they were the first example to others to establish such an exercise, they might not then, especially in those times, be the first dissolved, which they more than feared, unless they were "cherished and comforted" by their Lordships.

* Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CV., No. 122.

They, therefore, prayed to be informed of their Lordships' pleasure therein, that they might go cheerfully forward in their exercise; and as they had been, so would they always be, ready and willing to offer their persons and purses to enable and fit themselves to render that service to His Majesty and the State as became dutiful and loyal subjects.*

The Privy Council wrote to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, on the 5th of March, on the subject of the complaints which had been made to them against Capt. Panton, who appeared to be disliked by some members of the Company; and they had referred the case against him to the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, Sir Horatio Vere, and Sir Edward Conway, Kt., who, upon hearing the cause in the presence of both parties, had sent them their opinion in writing,† of which the Council approved; and forthwith recommended Capt. Panton, Capt. Bingham, and Capt. Thomas Brett for the post, and required the Lord Mayor, with the assistance of the Captains of the City Companies, to choose one of them to supply the place of Captain of the Artillery Yard, to train and teach the Company the use of arms as formerly;‡

At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen, on the 6th of March, the letter from the Privy Council of the previous day was read, and the captains of the several Companies of the City being called according to the directions of the letter, and their opinions taken of the three officers commended to the election of the Court by the Privy Council, for the directing and instructing of the Military Company Exercising Arms in the Artillery Garden who were then without a leader. All the captains present, thirteen in number, voted for Capt. Bingham, and the Court, proceeding to the election, with one voice chose Capt. Bingham; and it was ordered that the Recorder, with several Aldermen and Captains, should the next day attend the Privy Council to signify to them the proceedings of the Court, and humbly pray the Council to approve of their election. It was further resolved to make Capt. Bingham a freeman of the City of whichever

* Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CV., No. 123.

† See pp. 52-3.

‡ Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., No. 14, and Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., p. 119.

company he preferred, and before he took up his place to take the Oath of Allegiance and the oath of a freeman in open court, and, with all convenient speed, commence his duties, that the "Company may be reunited again." And the Court specially recommended that no person should be admitted into the Company who, by reason of his ability and quality, was not well fitted for the same.*

On Sunday, the 7th of March, one of the four Pleaders of the City, accompanied by Capt. Bingham, presented themselves before the Lords of the Privy Council, and informed them that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, with the advice of the City Captains, had chosen Capt. Bingham as Leader in the Artillery Garden, and desired their approval, which was given; their Lordships remarking that the gentleman whom they had chosen was well known to them for his "sufficiency" and experience in arms; and authorised him to train the Company in the Artillery Garden, or other convenient place, with the same privileges and liberty as formerly. They also thought he should be admitted a freeman and take the oath accordingly.†

On the 9th of March Capt. Bingham took the Oath of Allegiance, and was admitted into the Company of Ironmongers, paying for the City's use the sum of 6s. 8d.‡

1620.—The Lord Justice Montague and Sir H. Vere wrote to the Lord Mayor, on the 24th of January, saying that the Lords of the Privy Council had referred to them certain differences between the City of London and Capt. Panton, concerning the Company training in the Artillery Garden, and that the Recorder and Ald. Hamersley attended in behalf of the City, and Capt. Panton, with divers citizens on his behalf. The matter in question seemed to them of small moment, yet, as it might have occasioned much trouble, all parties freely agreed to leave it to them to decide without further examination. Only Capt. Panton besought that his reputation should be established, and that the City should recompense him for his seven years' employment

* Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 74.

† Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., p. 120.

Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 75.

and expense, all of which they thought very reasonable, and to which the Recorder and Alderman Hamersley assented.

They therefore informed the Privy Council, in writing, of the result, and directed the Recorder to inform the Lord Mayor and Aldermen that they thought that Capt. Panton should be recompensed for his services, considering it was for the public good, especially for the City of London.

They were informed by Capt. Panton that he had not yet had any recompense or satisfaction from them, they therefore thought good once more to recommend him to them on his own merits, so that the Lords of the Privy Council might not be again informed of his grievance and cause of complaint.*

In this year occurs the first mention of a grant made by the Corporation to the Company, which was continued for many years afterwards, towards the charge of their annual feasts, to which the Lord Mayor and principal officers of the Corporation were always invited.

On the 9th of May, the Chamberlain was ordered to pay to the President, Alderman Hamersley, £10 17s. 4d. for provisions sent into the fields on the 26th of April, when the "Artillerymen" mustered there; and for wine sent to the stewards for their supper at Merchant Taylors' Hall.†

Several persons having, by an abuse of trust, obtained for their own use leases from the King of ground in and about the Tower, which had been encroached upon to such an extent "that the splendour and magnificence of the Royal Castle was destroyed," by public property being thus diverted to private use; and complaint having been made of these abuses, all the leases were declared void.

By direction of the Privy Council the Lord Chamberlain, Sir H. Vere, the Earl of Arundel, Lord Craven, Mr. Secretary Naunton, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir E. Coke, personally inspected the ground, and found it much worse than they expected. Sir E. Coke was requested to consider how the abuses might be legally reformed, and upon his report the Privy Council issued an Order on the subject, dated the 4th of July,

* Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., No. 37.

† Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 428.

in which the following statement is contained :—That as a lease was procured from His Majesty by William Hammond, Master-Gunner, of the “ Artillery Yard, near the Minorytes,” under an ancient obsolete name of the “ Tesell Yard,” for 223 years, and as the lease was apparently defective and void, and acknowledged to be so by Hammond and his counsel, for manifest imperfections found in it by Sir E. Coke, it was delivered up to him by Hammond, and was then in the Council chest. It was then ordered that the said Artillery Yard should be for the future restored to the public use for which it had been formerly employed, viz., for the exercise of Arms and Artillery, and that from henceforth it should not be alienated or converted to any other use.”*

On the 3rd of October, a petition was presented by the citizens of London practising arms in the Artillery Garden, to the Court of Aldermen stating that the petitioners, out of their special love and affection to the City, had, for the space of ten years and upwards, to their great cost and charge, exercised the use of arms, and had been ready upon all occasions to supply and furnish the City with captains and other officers of chief respect, and were ready armed for defence of the same upon all sudden occasions. The Company, which not long since consisted of very nearly 500 worthy citizens, had of late diminished unto 200, or very few more, being discontented, as they had expected the Court to help to maintain their charges (which amounted to £250 per annum) for the maintenance of officers, and other needful expenses, besides arms, powder, and match ; to meet which charge the petitioners had been forced to make private collections, by reason of the decrease of the Company. Whereupon the Court taking the subject into their consideration, and being desirous to encourage such a commendable exercise to be performed within this City by freemen thereof, were well pleased to grant that the said petitioners should from henceforth receive out of the Cham-

* Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., pp. 145, 542, 543, and Vol. V., pp. 344, 353, 385. The full Report or Survey, dated 31st December, 1623, of the condition of the Tower, &c., by Sir Allan Apsley, Lieutenant of the Tower, Sir Richard Morrison, Lieutenant of the Ordnance, Sir John Ogle, Kt., and Colonel Sir John Kaye, Surveyor of Ordnance, is given (with plans) in Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CLVI., No. 13.

ber of London the sum of one hundred marks per annum, for and towards their better encouragement to continue and maintain the said exercise. And the same to be paid quarterly during the pleasure of the Court, unto their treasurer for the time being, appointed by the said Company, and the first payment to begin at Christmas next.*

1621.—The example set by the citizens of London in voluntarily enrolling themselves in the Artillery Company for the purpose of learning the use of arms and military discipline, led other towns to follow their example. On the 18th of June a petition was presented to the Privy Council by the Bailiffs and Aldermen of Colchester, stating that, by the most worthy example of London in the "Artillery Yard," they wished for permission to establish a similar organisation to enable them to render service to the country by training in military discipline under some worthy captain, who should be approved of by the Council. Their request was acceded to; but their Lordships directed that only such persons as were approved of by the Aldermen of that town were to be admitted members. A similar application was made on the 25th of October of the following year, by the Aldermen of Bury St. Edmunds, and likewise granted.† These may be considered the earliest form of Volunteer Corps in this country, and they probably differed but little from the "Military Associations" raised towards the close of the last century.

It was usual for the Trained Bands to assemble every year on May-day and Shrove Tuesday, in Finsbury Fields, nominally for training and exercise, but in fact to be prepared to suppress any disorders which might occur, as the apprentices and others, having a holiday, often attempted to create a disturbance.

On the 12th of April, 1621, the Privy Council wrote to the Lord Mayor to have the City Forces ready to assemble at all times for His Majesty's service; and reminded him to have the Military [Artillery] Company, or a sufficient number of Trained Bands, in Finsbury Fields on May-day, as usual.‡

* Letter Book GG, f. 295, and Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 566.

† Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. V., pp. 64 and 502.

‡ Idem, p. 31; and Repertory, Vol. XXXV., f. 112, and Vol. XL., f. 185.

1622.—The following year, the Council remark, in an Order dated the 6th of April, that (Finsbury Fields being rather out of the way) the Trained Bands were to march, by Fleet Street and the Strand, to St. James's Fields, so that such foreign ambassadors then with the King might take notice of the troops, which latter was probably the true reason of the alteration, Finsbury being really so much nearer.*

A petition was presented to the Privy Council, on the 5th of April, by the Company, complaining that William Hammond, Master-Gunner to His Majesty, had encroached upon their ground and place of exercise in the "Teazell Ground," or Artillery Garden, by enclosing certain cabbage gardens, and restraining them from using a butt with a mark, erected in the ground, and very useful in their exercise. They also begged, as the place in which they lodged their arms was so decayed that it was ready to fall down, they might have licence to build a new armoury of brick and stone, in some convenient part of the Teazell Ground.

Upon consideration it was agreed that, as the case of Hammond had been already decided by them, on the 4th of July, 1620, their Lordships thought it sufficient to confirm their previous Order, and commanded that the same should be forthwith put in full and due execution, both in laying open the said cabbage gardens, and restoring to the Company the free use of their butt and mark, as in what else should have relation thereunto; and that Hammond should be sent for to the Board to show cause why it had been so long delayed. With regard to the Armoury, their Lordships (in favour to that Society whom they held worthy of all lawful encouragement) ordered that they might build and erect a new house for that purpose at their own charge, provided it was made of brick and stone in such a manner as might be least subject to be surprised.†

The Court of Aldermen, being informed, on the 30th April, that the Society Practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, were going, at their own charge, to make an extraordinary feast that day week, and had invited the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, the Court, in token of their good respect to the Society, thought fit

* Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. V., p. 321.

† Idem, p. 319.

to bestow on them for the feast "one hogshead of clarrett wyne, thirty gallons of sacke, and thirty gallons of Rhenishe wyne," and the Chamberlain was ordered to pay Alderman Hamersley, the President, as much money as would provide the same.*

On the 1st of May, the foundations of the New Armoury were commenced, and it was completed on the 31st of November the following year. The Armoury was furnished with 500 sets of arms, of extraordinary beauty, which were lost in the Civil Wars.†

An annuity of 100 marks per annum having been granted by the Court of Aldermen to the Society for their better encouragement to continue that laudable exercise, upon a motion and humble request made to them on the 30th of July by divers of the City captains, the Court, out of their favour and good respect to them, ordered the Chamberlain to pay to their treasurer four years' payment of the said annuity, he giving an acknowledgment for the same.‡

1623.—The Society Practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, intending to make a great feast on Thursday week at Merchant Taylors' Hall, to which the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council and the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were invited, the Court of Aldermen, on the 10th of June, were pleased, in token of their good respect to that Society, to bestow upon them, towards the charge of the feast, one hogshead of claret, thirty gallons of sack, and the same number of Rhenish wine as formerly allowed on like occasions.§

A Report, dated the 31st of December, by the Lieutenant of the Tower, Sir A. Apsley; the Lieutenant of the Ordnance, Sir J. Ogle, and Sir John Kaye, Surveyor of Ordnance, stating what had been done in accordance with the latter part of the instructions delivered to them by the Privy Council on the 4th of December (touching the report made by the Right Hon. the Lord Chamberlain, the Earl of Arundel, Lord Carew, Mr. Secretary Naunton, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Edward Coke,

* Repertory, Vol. XXXVI., f. 115.

† Strype's Stow, Book II., pp. 96-7; Highmore, p. 57.

‡ Repertory, Vol. XXXVI., f. 219. § Idem, Vol. XXXVII., f. 179.

on the 4th of July, 1620), which directed that they should not only report what had been done since, in the execution of their Lordships' report, and the Order of the Council, but also suggest what might be done therein, humbly reported as follows:—*

First. Concerning the lease of the Artillery Garden, procured from his Majesty by William Hammond (late Master-Gunner of England), under an ancient obsolete name of the Tessel Yard, for 223 years, which lease, being found apparently defective and void, it was (upon report of Sir Edward Coke) ordered by the Privy Council that the said Artillery Garden should be for the future restored to the public use for which it had been formerly employed, viz., for the exercise of arms and artillery. Notwithstanding that the lease above mentioned, was unadvisedly and indirectly procured by the said Hammond, yet during all his time, and long before, and since, the Lieutenants of the Ordnance, and the Master-Gunners of England under them, had and still held and enjoyed the said Garden for His Majesty's service, and so for the public, as anciently, beyond the memory of man, had been always customary. But they now found a fair house lately erected there by the citizens of London, to lodge their arms in for their training days, who had also pulled down some of His Majesty's houses there of ancient and necessary use. This they pretended to have done by warrant from the Honorable Board; and if it pleased their Lordships to allow of this house, they humbly advised that there might be an acknowledgment from the City made and entered in the office of the Ordnance, that they hold it only by favour, to the end that His Majesty's interest and title might not be prejudiced by any claim of theirs hereafter. And that in lieu of the houses by them pulled down they might be enjoined to erect others for His Majesty's necessary service.†

1624.—On the 22nd of June, the Court of Aldermen, upon request made to them on behalf of the Society, who were going

* There is no trace of the instructions here referred to of the 4th December, 1622, several pages in the Council Register of this date being left blank.

† Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CLVI., No. 13. See also p. 56.

to make a feast, bestowed on them a hogshead of claret, to be by them provided, but paid for by the Chamberlain.*

On the 16th of December, it was stated that as it had pleased the Court, in the Mayoralty of Sir Edward Barkham, Kt., on the 22nd of July, 1621, to grant the Society four years' payment beforehand of an annuity of 100 marks, granted them in the Mayoralty of Sir William Cockayne, Kt., in 1620, for their better encouragement to continue that worthy exercise; upon the humble petition of the Society, and at the request of divers of the City Captains present, the Court, out of their good respect to the said Company, ordered the Chamberlain to pay the treasurer of the Society three years' payment in advance of the said annuity of 100 marks, the treasurer giving his receipt for the same.†

Sir Richard Morrison, Knight, Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and John Reynolds, Master-Gunner of England, petitioned the King, on the behalf of themselves and the officers of the Ordnance and all His Majesty's feed-gunners within or belonging to the Tower of London, and of all scholars trained up in the art of artillery, stating that as the said Lieutenant and his predecessors, and the Master-Gunner and his predecessors, under the said Lieutenant for the time being, partly by virtue of a lease granted by the late prior and convent of the new hospital of Our Blessed Lady without Bishopsgate, in the twenty-ninth year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth: for many years then to come, and partly by virtue of His Majesty's grant unto the said Lieutenant for the time being of the Teazell ground or Artillery Garden, next adjoining unto the said late Hospital; they had for a long time beyond the memory of any man living always quietly held and enjoyed the said Artillery Garden, and that the said Master-Gunner for the time being had always and still continued to teach and train up scholars there in the art of artillery, to make them able to serve the Crown and State as "Cannonyers," either by sea or land, upon all occasions of service; for whose encouragement King Henry the Eighth established divers fees, to the number of a hundred, or thereabouts—

* Repertory, Vol. XXXVIII., f. 160.

† Idem, Vol. XXXIX., f. 48^b.

some of twelve, some of eight, and some of sixpence per diem, which were then continued.

The citizens of London having, about twelve or thirteen years ago, obtained leave for their captains to exercise within the said garden a Company of Pikes and Muskets, and also of late, within these two years, or thereabouts, further leave to erect at the one end of the said garden an armoury or house to lodge the arms for the said Company,—the said citizens, upon this leave and extraordinary favour afforded unto them, had not only presumed to pull down two of His Majesty's houses, viz., a store-house and a proof-house, both of very ancient and necessary use upon many occasions for His Majesty's service, and to make a gate into the Ordnance way, where the scholars were taught, but commanded them to avoid that place, used threatenings unto them, and committed many other "insulteries and misdemeanours—too long to be here particularly inserted." They had also lately further presumed to offer a petition unto the High Court of Parliament, seeking, by cunning and untrue suggestions, to obtain an Act to gain the inheritance of the said garden to themselves, thereby to disinherit His Majesty, and to divest the petitioners, and all the officers, gunners, and scholars, belonging to the office of the Ordnance, of their ancient right and interest, so long enjoyed and used, for the service of the Crown and State, and never controverted, except by these unthankful guests, lately and unadvisedly admitted, only out of favour.

They, therefore, most humbly besought His Highness to be pleased to take these things into his Princely consideration, and to be a means to establish such order therein for the preservation of His Majesty's inheritance and the advancement of His Highness' service as should be thought fit. And they should pray for His Highness' happy days long to continue.*

* Endorsed, "Lieutenant of Ordnance and Master-Gunner of England, &c., Complaint against the Artillery Company for Intrusion into the Artillery Garden, and divers other Wrongs, to the Prejudice of His Majesty's Service in the Trial and Practice of the Ordnance, desiring Redress," &c. Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CLIX., No. 97.

CHAPTER IV.

ACCESSION OF CHARLES I. TO THE GREAT REBELLION.

FROM 1625 TO 1642.

CONTENTS.—The Company's Feasts.—First Rules and Orders made, 1631.—The Armorial bearings of the Company.—Dispute between John Reynolds, Master-Gunner, and the Company.—Their Petition to Privy Council.—Decision of the Council.—Disturbance in the Artillery Garden.—Company elect their own Officers.—Corporation Appeal to Privy Council.—The Council censure them.—King's Warrant to encourage the Company.—Council's Letter of Remonstrance.—The King to elect the Captain.—First Election of Court of Assistants and Officers, 1633.—Commissioners of Archery and the Brickmakers.—William Neade, inventor of the "Bow and the Pike."—The March of the English Nation, 1634.—Further Orders for appointment of Officers.—Captain to have £50 per annum.—"Artillery Yards" formed in London and Provinces.—Captain Walter Neale.—Bunhill Fields to be viewed, 1635.—Flourishing Condition of the Company, 1638.—The New Artillery Garden, 1640.—Prince of Wales and others become Members, 1641.—Suspension of Enrolments during Civil War.

1625.—The annual feasts of the Company, which were generally held in June, were for many years supported by the Corporation, who used to vote them £10 annually towards the expenses.

On Tuesday, the 9th of June, at a Court of Aldermen, the Chamberlain was ordered to deliver £10 to Alderman Hamersley as a gratuity towards the charge of a supper intended to be made by the Company on the Tuesday following, as in former times had been customary.

The same amount was voted annually, in June, in the following four years.*

* Repertory, Vol. XXXIX., f. 233; Vol. XL., f. 242 (1626); Vol. XLI., f. 249 (1627); Vol. XLII., f. 206 (1628); Vol. XLIII., f. 198 (1629).

1626.—Sir William Heydon, the Lieutenant of the Ordnance, describes the objects of the Artillery Garden (as used by the Gunners of the Tower) to be for the training and trial of gunners; and that having once passed approbation there, their sufficiency and capacity of serving the King would be no more questioned. Those who came or were sent to seek this trial, would find him, or the Master-Gunner of England, in the Garden on known days.*

1627.—Capt. Bingham did not long continue leader of the Company, as, by His Majesty's recommendation, he was chosen to take charge of Kilmore Castle, in Ireland. The Company therefore being without a Captain, the Court of Aldermen, on the 30th of January, wishing well to the exercise, and desirous that the place might be well served, recommended Capt. Philip Jefford, a freeman of the City, to the Society for the place, having a good opinion of him, and also good testimony of his well-deserving and efficiency; and he was so well known to them, that they could not think of a better choice themselves.†

1628.—The Council wrote to the Lord Mayor, on the 16th of February, ordering him to issue a proclamation requiring the citizens to furnish themselves and their servants with bows and arrows, according to the Statutes of 33 Henry VIII.‡

1631.—The first mention of Rules being made for the government of the Company occurs in this year, when, on the 20th of January, the Court of Aldermen appointed a Committee, consisting of eight of their number (most of whom were members of the Company) to carefully peruse and consider the orders to be observed by every member of the Society exercising arms in

* Memorandum by Sir W. Heydon, dated 20th August, on the back of a certificate in favour of William Ellef, as gunner of one of the pinnaces newly built at Chatham. Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. XXXIV., No. 11.

† Repertory, Vol. XLI., f. 92^b.

‡ Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. III., p. 306.

the Artillery Garden (which were drawn up on the 29th of December, 1629), and to report to the Court in writing their opinion thereon.*

On the 22nd of April, John Reynolds, Master-Gunner, and the Company (who were represented by the Recorder), appeared before the Privy Council, the latter claiming the liberty and freedom they had formerly enjoyed, for the exercise of arms, and the use of a butt or mark in the Artillery Garden, according to an Order of the Exchequer, and previous Orders of the Board, with His Majesty's permission. Their Lordships well approved and much commended the forwardness of the citizens in such warlike and commendable practices.

Sir John Heydon, Kt., Lieutenant of the Ordnance, also claimed the command, under His Majesty, of the said Artillery Garden, by right of his office and patent for the same; but the Council thought fit and ordered that the Company were to have liberty to exercise in the Artillery Garden, according to the former Orders of the Exchequer and of the Council, and also the free use of the butt on the platform there; and as the Master-Gunner complained that their frequent exercise was prejudicial to His Majesty's Service, as it hindered His Majesty's "cannoneers" from their exercise and proofs, for which they alleged that place to be ordained, their Lordships thought fit (in case the parties themselves could not agree upon the days and times for exercise of Artillery and other arms), to recommend the Council of War to set down such days and times on their behalf as might be best for His Majesty's Service. And as the Company alleged that they had spent about one thousand pounds in building an armoury and fort there, for the better continuance and advancement of their exercise, which would require the bringing in of materials from time to time for their maintenance and repair, it was thought fit and ordered that the said citizens should have liberty at convenient times to bring in materials to repair their fort and building, when and as often as needs should require, without the interruption of the Master-Gunner for the time being, or any under him. And, lastly, it was

* Repertory, Vol. XLV., f. 105. See p. 45.

ordered (for the avoiding of further occasion of future difference) that a servant of the said Company should keep the door of the said Artillery Garden on the days of their exercise, and was to lodge in the chamber which they had built for that purpose to the armoury, for the better safety of their arms. The Master-Gunner, and all others whom it concerned, were required to take notice, and to conform themselves accordingly.*

Neither parties were satisfied with this Order, and on the 18th of May, John Reynolds, the Master-Gunner, petitioned the Council, stating that upon the last hearing their Lordships had been pleased to permit divers citizens of London, and others exercising arms, to use and exercise their said arms in His Majesty's Artillery Garden, at such times as were not prejudicial to His Majesty's Service or Officers, in the due attendance and execution of their duties, which was expressly recommended to their Lordships by His Majesty. And their Lordships likewise directed that the manner and times of their exercise should be referred to the Council of War. By the draft of their Lordships' order, the days and times only were so referred; but their Lordships' order was to refer likewise the manner and place of their exercise, which was to be only in the open Artillery Garden, and not in the Ordnance way (where they could have no use in training), and which would greatly disturb the exercise and teaching of scholars in great ordnance. This was contrary to His Majesty's commands, who directed him to put on a lock and keep them out of the said Ordnance way.

And as there was mention made in the said draft of the use of a butt (which was in truth the butt for the great ordnance in the said Ordnance way), and the keeping of the door of the said Garden, and lodging there by one of their servants, which was never spoken of before, nor any mention made of it at the hearing, therefore the petitioner prayed that the consideration thereof, with power to set down rules and orders for the regulating of the premises, and preserving the petitioner and scholars from any injuries or affronts from the said citizens

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VI., pp. 463, 464; and Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CXCI., No. 57^a.

(which had been frequent and were still threatened) at their days of exercise, with such other alterations as might be recommended, should be referred to the Council of War.*

The Company at the same time presented a petition stating that as at the previous Council it had pleased them to confirm to them their former liberty of exercising arms in the Artillery Gardens, with some other necessary additions incident thereunto, yet the Master-Gunner, although being made acquainted with the said order, refused to submit to and obey the same.

The petitioners therefore humbly prayed that the Master-Gunner might again be summoned to attend their Lordships, to show the reasons of his refusal, and to answer his contempt, so that the petitioners might quietly enjoy the benefit of His Majesty's grace and favour towards them, and be encouraged to go on in their exercise without interruption or molestation, according to the several orders of the Honourable Board.†

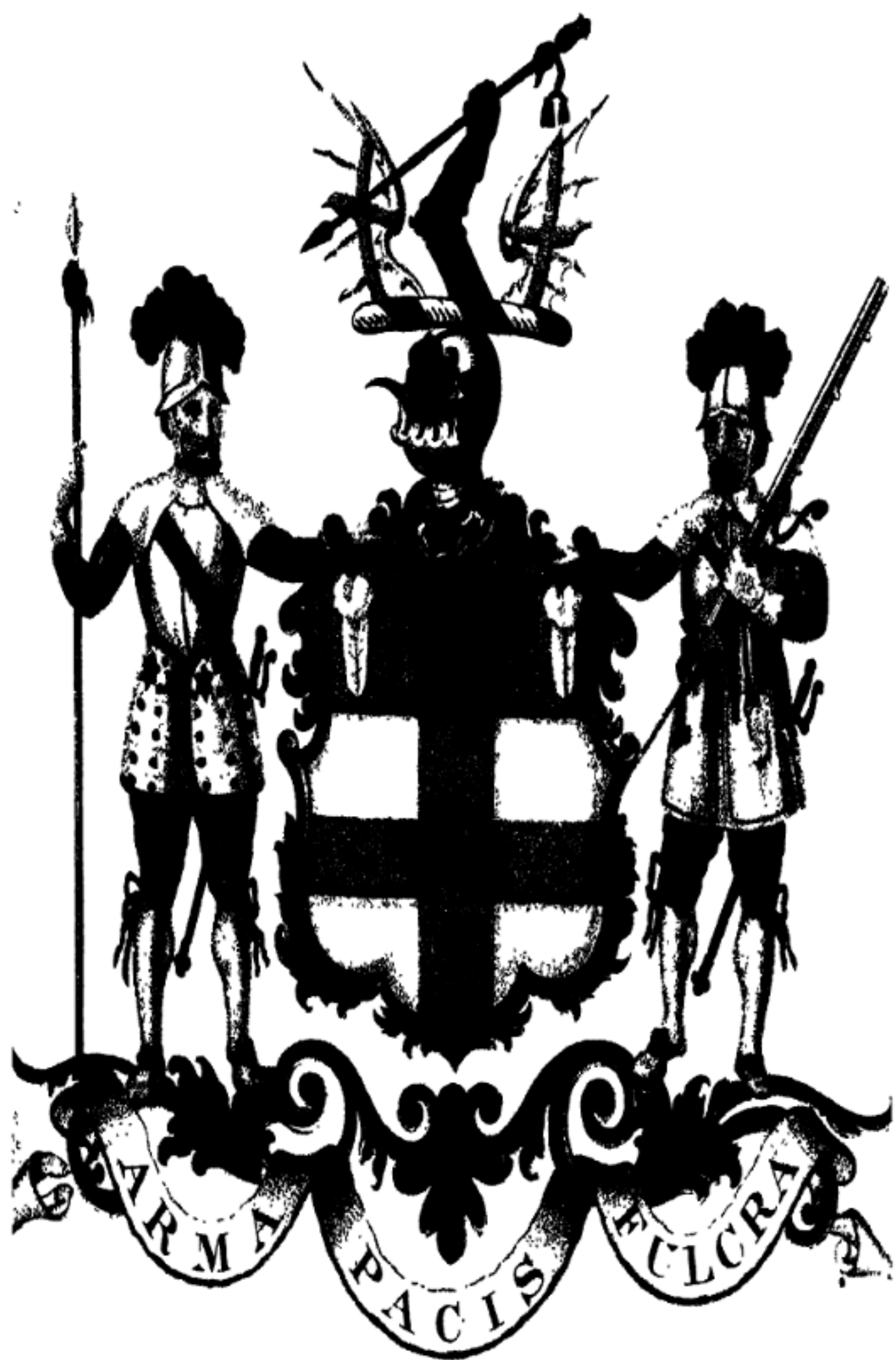
These two petitions being read at a Council at Whitehall, their Lordships called both parties before them, and heard what was said on behalf of Reynolds, but found that he could say nothing in excuse of his not conforming thereto, but only a verbal command pretended to have been given by His Majesty about seven years previously, that the citizens should neither use the butt or the Ordnance way in their exercise, and that some hurt might befall Reynolds' person by the unskilfulness of the persons who exercised arms there.

The citizens in reply stated that the exercise they used would do no injury to the butt, and if it did they were willing to repair it at their expense; that it was no hindrance to the scholars who learnt the use of great artillery in the "ordnance way," and it was far from their thoughts to injure his person by their exercise.

Their Lordships therefore thought fit to ratify and confirm their former order in every respect. And as by a clause thereof it was reserved to the Council of War to fix such days and

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VI., p. 512: and Domestic (Chas. I.) Vol. CXCI., No. 57.

† Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CXCI., No. 58.



ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY

times for exercise as should be best for His Majesty's service, the Earl of Danby, Lord Viscount Dorchester, Lord Viscount Falkland, and Mr. Secretary Coke, being then present (who were members of the Council of War), agreed that Mondays and Tuesdays should be the ordinary days for the Artillery Company, and in case of any extraordinary occasion they might, by mutual consent, alter the day. The Privy Council "did intreat" the above four Lords of the Council of War, at their earliest convenience, to repair to the Artillery Garden and see whether the inconvenience the Master-Gunner complained of was likely to be increased by the Company exercising there or not, and to report the same to the Board, so that such further course might be taken to settle the matter as should be necessary; and meantime the former order was to remain in force, and the Company was to have a key to the door of the platform where the butt was, upon their day of exercise, without the interruption of the Master-Gunner or any under him.*

On the 23rd of June the Court of Aldermen, with the consent of the Masters and Wardens of the Company of Bowyers and Fletchers, directed that bows and arrows should be sold at such prices as the "Captain over the Band of Archery shall think fit to allow and set down."†

On the 4th of October the Court voted £10 towards the supper which was shortly to take place, to be paid by the Chamberlain to the stewards.‡

The Armorial bearings of the Company are stated, by Blackwell, to have been conferred on them by James I.; the exact date is unknown, but they were certainly granted previous to this year, as an engraving of them is given in a work on tactics by Capt. John Bingham, the late Leader of the Company, he having been then succeeded by Capt. Henry Waller.§

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VI., pp. 512, 513.

† Repertory, Vol. XLV., f. 392.

‡ Idem, f. 516.

§ Blackwell, p. 2; and "The Art of Embattailing an Army, on the Second Part of Cælian's Tactics;" by Capt. John Bingham. London, folio, 1631. The arms are also given in a work entitled "Militarie Discipline, or the Young Artillery Man." - By Lieut.-Colonel William Bariffe. London, 1638.

This officer did not long live to occupy the place, and on the 8th of November, the Court of Aldermen ordered Sir Hugh Hamersley, Kt., the President of the Society, to inform them that, as the place of Captain and Leader had become vacant by the death of Capt. Waller, they were to nominate three or more such as they thought the most fit and able men for the place, from whom the Court would elect a Leader for a year, provided he demeaned himself to the liking of the Court and the Company. On the 10th of November, the Company presented Capt. Marmaduke Rawden, Capt. John Fen, and Capt. Edmund Foster, to the Court as their nominees; from whom Capt. Rawden, with a free and general consent, was elected to be Leader for one year.*

A Committee was appointed by the Court of Aldermen, on the 6th of December, to confer with C. Porter, Esq., one of His Majesty's Bedchamber, "touching certain propositions lately sent to Capt. Rawden, of the Society of the Artillery Garden, and desire that there may be no further proceedings thereon."†

1632.—On the 21st of February the Court of Aldermen directed, that as by an Order of the Court, of the 20th of January, 1631, Sir Thomas Middleton, and others, were appointed to carefully peruse and consider the orders to be observed by every member of the Artillery Company, and as the Committee had not yet done so, at the request of the Society the Recorder was added to the Committee in place of Sir Thomas Middleton, deceased, and they were directed to report their opinion in writing to the Court.‡

On the 1st of March a Committee of the Court was appointed to attend the Lords of the Privy Council, at two o'clock the following day, with a petition from the Lord Mayor and Commonalty about the City's supply of water, which was taken away by divers persons inhabiting the Strand, and in or near the Common Garden; and to inform their Lordships of the disorders of the Society Practising Arms in the Artillery Garden. Mr.

* Repertory, Vol. XLVI., ff. 4b, 5, 7b, and 8.

† Idem, f. 33b.

‡ Idem, f. 106.

Bacon, the City Remembrancer, was to attend them, and a barge was ordered to be ready for their conveyance.*

Sir Hugh Hamersley, Kt., together with Mr. Alderman Fen, Alderman Clitheroe, Alderman Garroway, and Alderman Abdie attended the Council the following day, and informed the Board of the disorderly and mutinous conduct of sundry persons of the Artillery Yard, "near the City of London," in refusing the Captain chosen by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen to succeed Capt. Waller, deceased, and in assuming to themselves the power of choosing another of their own liking; and also, in getting three hundred and nine hands, in a factious manner, to a petition presented to the Lord Mayor; in disobeying Warrants sent by the Lord Mayor, and in other acts and courses tending to the disturbance of the peaceable government of the City, and to the contempt of lawful authority.

Their Lordships, having taken into serious consideration the dangerous consequence of these proceedings, first thought fit to confirm and ratify two former Orders of the Board made touching the said Artillery Yard; the one of the 3rd of July, 1612; the other of the 11th of December, 1614; adding thereunto that the choice of the Captain and other officers, and the whole ordering of that body, should rest in the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen wholly and exclusively from any other. And more particularly that they of the said Artillery Yard should not presume or undertake to present any names, thereby to restrain the liberty of the election which was to be made of such person or persons as the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen should think fit for the place of Captain, or any other officer. And as it concerned His Majesty's honour and service, and the good government of the City, that the disorders before mentioned should not pass unpanished, their Lordships likewise ordered and expressly required the Lord Mayor to inquire particularly, who got the hands to the petition; who called Sir Hugh Hamersley "base fellow;" by whom a Vice-President was made without the Lord Mayor's knowledge, and who accepted the said office; who kept the Register of the Company; how the Vice-Presidents have

* Repertory, Vol. XLVI., f. 122b.

demeaned themselves; and who took on themselves to call a Court, and proceeded to the election of a Captain without warrant or consent of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, and without the President; and, lastly, what other persons have disobeyed the Lord Mayor's Warrants, or had their hands in those mutinous courses; and upon full examination to inflict such punishment on every such offender by imprisonment and otherwise as he should find the quality of the offence to deserve, and to be exemplary for the repressing and beating down the like insolencies and disorders in time to come; and, finally, he was required to give particular account to the Board of his proceedings in every point.*

On the 8th of March the Lords of the Council wrote to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, stating that upon the information which Sir Hugh Hamersley gave them of divers disorders and mutinous conduct of sundry persons of the Artillery Yard, near the City, they found how ready they were to assist them with their authority in cases which concerned their place and quality. But they were to take notice that they greatly blame the Court of Aldermen, who were so far wanting to themselves, and so remiss in using that power which His Majesty entrusted to them, that the disorders which at first might easily and without noise have been suppressed, were allowed to grow to such a height that might have had dangerous consequences if it was longer tolerated. This neglect and slackness deserve a sharp censure, and if His Majesty should call them to account for the same they would not be able to answer it. But for this time they have only thought fit to admonish them to be more careful hereafter in the suppressing of like disorders as soon as they appear, so that they might have cause to commend their care and vigilance rather than to take further notice of their neglect.†

The King apparently took the part of the Company, and sent them the following letter from Newmarket:—

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VII., pp. 438, 439; Repertory, Vol. XLVI., f. 127; and Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., No. 91. A rough draft, giving directions for drawing up the Order, endorsed "Council Table," is given in Vol. CCXIV., No. 2, Domestic (Chas. I.).

† Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VII., pp. 450, 451.

“CHARLES R.

“Trustie and wellbeloved we greet you well. Whereas we are informed that the worthie and commendable institution of yo^r voluntary Company of the Artillerie Garden, hath been soe well pursued by yo^r industrious and forward endeavours that you are not only become ready and skilfull in the knowledge and use of Armes and military discipline, but that from thence, as from a fruitfull Nursery, all the trayned hands of our Cittie of London, and divers of the Companies of the counties adjoyning have beene supplied wth fitt and able Leaders and Officers, whereby our Service hath received much Advantage, and the kingdome in generall a very great benefitt. And being unwilling that a Societie of soe good use to the publike, and of soe much safetie and honor to our renowned Citie of London should be dissolved or discontinued, as we are given to understand it is in great danger through some distractions which you have lately suffered about the Election of your Captaine. We have thought fitt hereby to will you not be hastie to disband, but if ye find that ye are molested needlesly or unjustly by any there, have recourse to us and you shall find such due encouragement as soe comendable a Societie deserves. Given att our Court at Newmarkett, the Eight day of March, in the Seaventh yeare of our Raigne.

“To our trustie and wellbeloved Humfrie Smith, Ald^r president of the Company exercisinge Armes in the Artillerie Garden, London, and to the Rest of the Companie.” *

On the 12th of March the Order of the Privy Council of the

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXIV., No. 17. A copy of Order in Council annexed, dated 3rd July, 1612: endorsed, “Received Mch. 1632.” There is also a letter in the Public Record Office from Secretary Windebank, endorsed by the writer “Minute of my letter to His Majesty concerning the business His Majesty left with me in charge to be proposed to the Lords in his absence at Newmarket. Concerning the City’s trained men [practising in the] Artillery Yard, the Lords submit to the King the nomination of a Captain in place of him who is lately dead, and humbly desire to understand your further pleasure therein.” Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXXIV. No. 40.

2nd inst. was read at a Court of Aldermen, by which the Lord Mayor was required to take particular information of the disorders which were committed by divers practising arms in the Artillery Garden; and of a letter sent from their Lordships, admonishing the Court to be more careful for the future in the suppressing of like disorders so soon as they appear; and also of a copy of a letter from His Majesty directed to the President of the said Artillery Garden, whereby the Company was commanded not hastily to disband.

It was thought fit and ordered that a Special Court of Aldermen should be held the following afternoon, and that the names of two hundred, or thereabouts, of those practising arms in the said Garden, should be summoned to appear then before the Court to state whether they would continue their practice under the rule and government of the Court; and Sir Hugh Hamersley, Kt. and Alderman, Mr. Alderman Clitheroe and Mr. Alderman Abdie, were directed, that night, to address themselves to the Right Hon. Sir Edward Coke, and acquaint his honour with the proceedings of that Society upon the receipt of that His Majesty's letter, and also of the proceedings and intentions of the Court of Aldermen, and to receive his honour's directions in the matter on behalf of the Court to stop further proceedings of that Society to His Majesty.*

The Court of Aldermen appointed a Committee on the 13th of March, who, with Capt. Rawden, Capt. Bond, Capt. Langham, Capt. Ditchfield, Capt. Lee, and Capt. Crispe, or any four of them, were directed to wait on the Privy Council, at two o'clock the following afternoon, touching the proceeding of the Court and the Society Practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, and to report their proceedings to the Court.†

The Privy Council were much displeased at the letter addressed by the King to the Company; and on the 16th of March they wrote to His Majesty, stating that complaint had been made to them by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen that a tumultuous company of those who had leave to exercise arms in the Artillery Garden had presumed, without warrant, to assemble and choose

* Repertory, Vol. XLVI., ff. 127, 132.

† Idem, f. 134.

a new President and Deputy-President, and to call a Court and to reject a Captain whom the Lord Mayor had chosen, who had been nominated by themselves. The election of a new Captain was also proposed; and that for his choice the house (as they called it) was divided, the doors locked, and the key brought to the Deputy, with other factious acts which required further examination. Since this they had seen a copy of the letter obtained from His Majesty, and thought it their duty to acquaint him that, in their opinion, the procurers thereof deserve to be blamed for causing it to be directed to Alderman Smith, as President of the Company, who, being factiously chosen, did, in duty to His Majesty, and the City, refuse to accept the charge which this superscription might seem to impose upon him; and so to authorise all the rest of their irregular actions, if by his own princely wisdom a clause had not been inserted, whereby the justice of their pretences was reserved to a fit and necessary examination. But before they knew of this letter they ratified former orders of the Board to support the City's government in this business, and withal reproved by letter the remissness of the Mayor and Aldermen, in letting fall that authority which the State had committed to their trust.

Of this order of theirs the Company taking notice, chose a Committee of twelve, with liberty to be assisted with as many more as they pleased, both to petition the Lord Mayor and that Board, which they performed in such manner as the Council conceived to be without precedent, and worthy of censure, to which the Council would have proceeded, if in regard of the reservation in His Majesty's letter they had not in duty first ascertained his further pleasure.

But they found, upon a second examination of former Acts of Council, that howsoever the wisdom of the State had cherished and encouraged this martial company, yet it still made it subject to the government of the Lord Mayor as the King's Lieutenant, and of the Aldermen, by committing unto them the appointment of officers, and establishment of orders; yet in the choice of their Captain there was other reservation for the approval of the Council Board, without which neither Mayor nor Aldermen, and much less the Company, had, or ought to have, any power of election or nomination. And they thought fit that their orders

should also be confirmed by the approval of the Board, which, if His Majesty should be pleased so to regulate, there was hope that (if a moderate hand was carried in the choice of such a Captain as might be free from the exceptions taken to others, though in other respects worthy soldiers,) the Mayor and Aldermen would see that the Company was upheld with more able men than many that were admitted, and who (they say) were the authors of all those disorders. Their only care was, for His Majesty's service, to reduce the Company to obedience, "and to suppress popular faction within this your Royal Chamber, which may produce evil effects, if the least way be given to it." Dated the 16th March, and signed by Lord Keeper, Earl of Kellie, Lord Viscount Wentworth, Lord Viscount Falkland, Lord Bishop of London, Lord Cottington, and Mr. Secretary Coke.*

On the 4th of April the Privy Council ordered that the Aldermen, and such as were employed by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen about the business of the Artillery Garden, should attend on Wednesday, the 11th of April, in the afternoon, at which time those appointed by the Artillery Company were likewise to attend.†

At a Council held on the 18th of April, His Majesty (being present) did declare his resolution in the controversy between the Lord Mayor and Aldermen and the Company of the Artillery Garden, which had been formerly heard by His Majesty and the Lords of his Council on the eleventh of that month, as well as on several previous occasions. And, first, His Majesty, according to the true meaning of the orders for the first institution of the Company, and according to the voluntary submission of both the parties, resolved to take the election of the Captain of the Company of the Artillery Garden in his own hands. And declared, with the advice of the Board, that neither the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, nor the Company, ought to have the election of the Captain. And for that purpose, His Majesty did declare the election made by the Lord Mayor

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VII., pp. 462, 463.

† Idem, p. 500. These proceedings of the 11th of April are not entered in the Council Register.

and Aldermen, as by the said Company, of the Captain and of all other officers, void and of none effect. And, further, His Majesty resolved and ordered, with the advice of the Board, that the election of the President and of all other officers should be in his own hands; yet, because he would not at all times be put to the trouble to choose those officers, he commanded the Lord Mayor and Aldermen now and hereafter to elect them, saving the Captain, whom His Majesty himself would think fit to take the pains to choose; in which number of officers the Treasurer's place was not included, but that, being a particular trust, was left to the choice of the Company.

And whereas, upon examination of the said controversy, it was found that orders for the government of the Company had not yet been made, as was first intended, His Majesty would be pleased to consult with His Lords of the Council for such orders to be framed and established for their government as should be requisite. And, lastly, as His Majesty, with the advice of the Board, held it reasonable that the authority of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen should be countenanced and upheld in the government of the several parts of the City, under His Majesty, and should always approve their fitting endeavours to vindicate the same, so he did not approve the expressions used by word of mouth, and in some petitions by the said Company, intimating a consequence of disbanding if their desires were not yielded unto, nor the disorders and contentions which appeared in their proceedings.*

1633.—The Lords of the Council wrote to the Lord Mayor, on the 23rd of January, saying that as His Majesty had reserved to himself the choice and nomination of the Captain, to instruct and direct the Company of the Artillery Garden; and having taken especial notice of the sufficiency and long experience of Sergeant-Major Taylor,—both by his long employment in the wars of the Low Countries, and since his return from thence in His Majesty's own service, where he had borne the office of Sergeant-

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VII., pp. 520, 521: and Remembrance, Vol. VII., No. 29, and Vol. VIII., No. 92.

Major and Lieutenant of Ordnance in the field, in which he had behaved with good commendation, as it became an honest, valiant, and expert soldier. And as the Captainship of the Artillery Garden was then vacant by the death of Colonel Hacklewit, lately deceased, they were directed by His Majesty to express his pleasure, and to let them know, that His Majesty had elected, nominated, and appointed the said Sergeant-Major Taylor to the place of Captain. And, in His Majesty's name by virtue hereof, they required them not only to cause him to be admitted and received into the said place and charge, but also to be treated with all courtesy and respect, as a person whom His Majesty esteemed. And, further, they required them, as soon as convenient, to call the Company together, and deliver unto them His Majesty's expressed pleasure. And so, not doubting of His Lordship's care to perform His Majesty's directions they bid His Lordship farewell.*

On the 28th of February, Sir Hugh Hamersley, President of the Company, informed the Court of Aldermen that, in accordance with their Order of the 19th of February, he summoned the Company together, and presented unto them Sergeant-Major Taylor, and signified unto them that His Majesty had chosen him to be their Captain; and caused His Majesty's letter to that effect to be read to them. He then desired the Court to discharge him from the place of President of the Society, which, they having duly considered, granted his request, and nominated Sir James Campbell, Mr. Alderman Bloomfield, Mr. Alderman Fen, Mr. Alderman Harvey, and Mr. Alderman Smith, from whom Sir James Campbell was chosen President; but as he alleged his inability to undertake the place, in consequence of his want of experience, and Alderman Fen having only one vote less for the place, the Court nominated them both again; and although the latter much desired to be excused on account of his age, being unfit to take upon him the duties, yet the Court, from their knowledge of his worth and efficiency (he being one of the City's Colonels), elected him Captain of the Company; but

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VIII., p. 385; and Remembrancia, Vol. VII., No. 83.

he requested time to consider whether he would accept the place.*

On the 7th of March, the Court ordered that the President of the Company, calling unto him such members as he thought fit, should consider proper persons for officers, and present their names in writing to the Court, so that they might elect them in accordance with His Majesty's commands.†

At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen, on the 12th of March, Alderman Fen accepted the place of President of the Company, and presented the names of divers persons for election, as also the names of those to be elected officers. The Court, with the advice of the President, elected the following:—Capt. Rayden, to be Deputy-President; Capt. John Milward, Capt. George Langham, Capt. John Fen, Capt. Edward Ditchfield, Capt. Nicholas Crispe, Mr. George Dun, Mr. William Flye, Mr. Alexander Rormington, Mr. Nathaniel Thornell, Mr. Jonathan Gauthorne, Mr. John Trench, Mr. Nathaniel Sheppard, Mr. William Manby, Mr. William Stretton, Mr. Robert Davys, Mr. Thomas Whitehead, Mr. Henry Saunders, Mr. Rowe, Mr. John Shawe, Mr. George Stretton, Mr. Timothy Crusoe, and Mr. Edward Peirce, to be the Assistants; and of Mr. William Stretton and Mr. Thomas Whitebread, to be the Lieutenants; and of Mr. Bartholomew Philpott and Mr. Henry Saunders, to be the Ensigns; and of Mr. Robert Lewes, Mr. John Shawe, Mr. George Stretton, and Mr. Martin Pinder, to be the Surveyors of Arms; and of Ralph Mabb, Henry Nevell, Ralph Cotchford, and Robert Salter, to be the Sergeants; and of Henry Pollard, Richard Armstrong, Henry Russell, and John Beeby, to be the Drummers; and of William Fox, to be the Fife; of William Crowther, to be the Armourer; of John Norcott, to be the Gunsmith; of Edward Mathewes, to be the Clerk; and Edward Glover, to be the Beadle.‡

The King having been informed that the place of Captain of the Artillery Garden was void, by the death of Captain Taylor, recommended Captain Walter Neale, in consequence of the faithful favours done by him, and his abilities in military disci-

* Repertory, Vol. XLVII., f. 143.

† Idem, f. 151.

‡ Idem, ff. 153, 154.

pline, and doubted not that they would readily confer the place on him; which the King would retain in his princely remembrance for their benefit as occasion should present.*

On the 12th of December His Majesty's letter was read at a Court of Aldermen, recommending Captain Walter Neale to be Captain of the Artillery Garden in place of Captan Taylor, deceased; and Mr. Alderman Fen, the President of the Company, was directed to communicate it to them, so that he might be admitted, in obedience to His Majesty's commands.†

The Commissioners for Archery‡ petitioned the Privy Council on the subject of the Brickmakers destroying the fields, which, according to their Order of the 17th of July, they had provided for the laudable exercise of archery. The Brickmakers had not complied with their Lordships' Order to fill up the ground, but continued to dig earth. One of them, Robert Needle, promised the Commissioners not to make up the earth, but soon after set a number of men to work, and then went out of town. They had lately broken up fresh ground within twenty yards of the place the Commissioners had taken such care to preserve; and one Adam Crispe had also dug up new ground adjoining his former work. The Commissioners begged the Council to consider the matter, and take such steps against the two offenders as they should think fit, and also that they would ratify their former order for levelling the ground and preserving the same.§

Subsequently Joseph Oldfield, a brickmaker, petitioned the King, saying, that upon the unjust information of four or five of the Commissioners for Archery, he had been obliged to take other ground which the Archers never had anything to do with, and prayed for liberty to make bricks of it, like other subjects. For the superfluous pleasure of the citizens he had for five years been

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCLIX., No. 76.

† Repertory, Vol. XLVIII., f. 39^b.

‡ Appointed by the King's Letters Patent. See Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXXVI., No. 49. Patent Roll 8 (Chas. I.), part 8 (in dorso), and Appendix C. No. 5.

§ Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCLVII., No. 106. See Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. VIII., p. 557 (12th April), pp. 591, 592 (26th April); Vol. IX., p. 160 (17th July), and p. 508 (28th February, 1634).

exiled from his whole estate, which was then worth £1,200, and not only left without means of livelihood, but was £40 in debt.*

The Artillery Garden had now become a recognised School for Gunners, on a similar plan to that which William Thomas, the Master-Gunner in 1581-2, so long advocated and tried to establish; certificates being granted from thence to candidates for the appointment of gunners in the Navy.

On the 16th of December, Horatio, Lord Vere, Master of the Ordnance, recommended John Spencer to the Lords of the Admiralty, as a gunner in one of the new ships, as, amongst other qualifications, he had been a scholar in the Artillery Garden. He was also recommended by the Master-Gunner of England for the same reason, and also because he was "able to do well at the tail of a piece of ordnance."†

The post of gunner in the Artillery Garden was evidently sought after. On the 6th of June, 1634, Sir Edward Nicholas wrote to the Secretary of Lord Vere, soliciting for John Andrews, an honest and faithful servant of his, an able man of body, and very apt, who belonged to the Artillery Garden, the place of a gunner, lately void by the death of a brewer in Southwark, and stated that he was ready to pay what others usually gave.‡

William Nead, an Archer, invented a weapon, consisting of a bow and a pike combined, which was used for some time by the Company. In 1625 he published a description of it, dedicated to the King, in which he says that he gave a pike and bow and sheaf of arrows to the two Gardens of London and Westminster; and that the worthy Society of the Artillery Garden in London had practised it ever since. The Lord Mayor every year issued a proclamation for the encouragement and maintenance of archery; and formerly it was from the best of these Archers that the King's Yeomen of the Guard were chosen; which encouraged many, in hope of such preferment, to exercise shooting, and become very expert bowmen.

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCCVII., No. 99. See also Vol. CCCLXXVII., No. 59, and Vol. CCCXV., No. 102.

† Idem, Vol. CXCVII., No. 4, and Vol. CCLII., Nos. 53 and 65.

‡ Nicholas's Letter Book, Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. CCXIX., p. 103.

By new inventions war had become altered, and the bow was cast aside as altogether unserviceable. Some inventions were both wicked and an offence to God and man, "amongst which Bartholdus Swart, the Franciscan friar, with his most devilish invention of gunpowder, is the most damnable, and from hell itself invented." The ancient and famous weapon of the bow and arrow had become quite extinguished, and although other nations made use of new inventions, they did not leave off the bows; but with us hand-guns and muskets were in request, although a man could shoot six arrows in the time required to fire a musket.

It had then (1625) been in use for the last twelve months by the Artillery Company, and was approved of by them and by Captain Bingham.*

In 1633 he presented a petition to the Privy Council, stating that His Majesty had approved of his warlike invention, and given directions for it to be practised in martial discipline, which had been done accordingly in the Artillery Garden. He had also presented it to Parliament in the first year of the reign of His Majesty, who appointed a Committee of thirty members to inquire into the subject, and they unanimously approved of it. After the dissolution of Parliament he was referred by His Majesty to the Council of War, to arrange some course for the general exercise of it, and to reward him. At the King's desire it was performed by 300 of the Artillery Company, in St. James's Park, before His Majesty, and the Council of State and Council of War, with their approbation. It was then referred by the King to the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal and the Attorney-General, to advise a "loyal way how to command the general exercise of this service." After being again referred to the Council at War to arrange about its being practised, His Majesty directed a Commission to be drawn up authorizing him to teach it; and a Proclamation, to be prepared by the Lord Keeper, to command the general exercise thereof, both of which were drawn up by the

* The Double-armed Man, by the New Invention. By William Nead, Archer. 1625. Illustrated with plates showing the exercise of the bow and the pike.

Honourable Sir Robert Heath, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, then Attorney-General.

As the Lord Keeper was not willing in a case of this nature to approve of it alone, all proclamations being especially appointed to pass the Council, he humbly prayed them that having regard to the general good which this invention might do to posterity, both for offensive and defensive war, as well as to the laudable exercise of Archery, they would be pleased, for the advancement of this public service, to put an end to the petitioner's long attendance, by taking the said petition and proclamation into their favourable consideration.* On the 19th of May, 1637, he again petitioned the Council, at the Inner Star Chamber, begging that some reward might be conferred on his son and himself, and also that they would favour and advance the said exercise, which was approved of and ordered to be used by the Lords-Lieutenants of many counties. The Council requested those Lords-Lieutenants who were members of the Council to give them their opinion on the subject in writing, so that further course might be taken as should be best for His Majesty's Service.†

The Court of Aldermen appointed a Committee, on the 22nd of April, 1634, to consider this exercise (which had been ordered by Royal Proclamation in August, 1633), and on the 13th of May they presented their report, stating that the said Proclamation had been several times publicly read to the Captain and Society Practising Arms in the Artillery Garden, which they considered the best place for it; and recommended that the Lord Mayor should give power to the Aldermen and Deputies to call out some of the Common Council in every ward to assist them to take the names of persons fit and able for the said exercise, and especially those of the Trained Bands; and the exercise was to be performed on holidays as much as possible, so as not to interfere with business.‡

Stow describes the Artillery Garden in this year as being surrounded by a brick wall, and that the gunners from the Tower practised there every Thursday, "levelling certain brass pieces

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXLIII., No. 70.

† Idem, Vol. CCCLVI., No. 148.

‡ Repertory, Vol. XLVIII. ff. 328-30.

of great artillery against a butt of earth made for that purpose: they discharged them for their exercise." *

1634.—On the 14th of February, Alice Taylor, widow of Nathaniel Taylor, petitioned the Privy Council, stating that her husband, when a Sergeant-Major, was recommended by His Majesty to be Captain of the Artillery Garden, and was confirmed in that appointment by the Privy Council, which he held whilst his health and life permitted, viz., twelve months, but did not receive any satisfaction for his pains. She was desired by the President of the Company not to trouble the Council on the subject until he had conferred with the Company, who, having been assembled, refused to grant her anything, and she was therefore obliged to appeal to them as her husband died in debt, and had left some children. She therefore humbly besought them to consider the sorrowful state of the comfortless widow and fatherless son.†

On the 14th of February, the Council wrote to Alderman Ven, President of the Artillery Garden, stating that Sergeant-Major Taylor having been formerly recommended by the King and Council to be Captain of the Company, it was expected that the Company would allow him such salary and "entertainment" in keeping with his quality and employment. The Council had that day been informed by the petition of Alice Taylor, the widow of the deceased, that he had never received any salary or recompence, and that they had since refused her all satisfaction. The Council considered it very just and reasonable that some competent allowance should be given to her by the Company, and required the President to deal effectually with the Company, as she was left in debt; and he was to inform the Council, in writing, of their proceedings by Wednesday, the 16th of February.‡

At a Court of Aldermen, on the 26th of February, Alderman Fen, having been a year President of the Company, made his

* Howe's Stow, Book II., pp. 96, 97.

† Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCLVII., No. 108; and Council Registers, Vol. IX., p. 500.

‡ Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. IX., pp. 500, 501.

earnest request to be discharged in respect of his great age and inability of body ; but the Court, being desirous for him to continue, nominated him again, together with Mr. Alderman Bromfield, Mr. Alderman Smith, and Mr. Alderman Garroway, which resulted in Alderman Smith being elected.*

On the 13th of May, the Recorder was ordered to speak with Mr. Attorney-General, touching the writ of distringas brought against the Lord Mayor, citizens, and commonalty of the City, for and concerning some intrusion upon the Artillery Garden, and the City Solicitor was directed to attend the Recorder, and take care to defend as much of the said cause, at the City's charge, as concerned the City ; and as much as concerned the Society Practising Arms in the said Garden, was to be defended by them at their own charge.†

In compliance with an Order of the Privy Council, it was thought fit, and ordered by the Court, on the 24th of May, that Sir Hugh Hamersley and Sir James Campbell, Kts. and Aldermen, Mr. Alderman Clitheroe, Mr. Alderman Fen, Sir Maurice Abbott, Kt. and Alderman, Mr. Alderman Garroway, and Mr. Alderman Abdy, should on the following Monday morning attend the Lords' Committee, appointed by His Majesty for the settling of the Company of the Artillery Garden.‡

A curious Order in Council was issued on the 10th of March, stating that His Majesty, having been pleased to reform "the March of the English Nation," which had become corrupted by time and the negligence of drummers, and for the honour of the kingdom, to restore it to the ancient gravity thereof, by the establishment of one constant measure to be hereafter observed and beaten by all English drummers ; directions were given for it to be imparted to the Colonels, and by them to the Captains and Officers of the several regiments of the City, to be duly observed in all musters or military exercises of the Trained Bands.§

A document drawn up about this period, probably by the

* Repertory, Vol. XLVIII., f. 118.

† Idem, f. 327. ‡ Idem, f. 340.

§ Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., No. 136.

Secretary of State, gives a sketch of the proceedings connected with the Company during the previous four-and-twenty years, and suggests improvements, which were afterwards adopted by an Order in Council on the 4th of July:—

“The Military Company of the City of London continued about four-and-twenty years in the laudable and orderly exercise of arms, to the good liking of His Majesty, the benefit of the kingdom, and honour of the City, until after the death of Captain Henry Waller, at which time a question arose, betwixt them and the Lord Mayor, and Court of Aldermen. The controversy was about the election of their Captain; the Company pretending they had the free election, and were only bound to present one whom they should choose for Captain unto the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen for approbation. The Lord Mayor and Aldermen allege, on the contrary, that they ought to present three, or, at least, two, and of them the Lord Mayor and Aldermen to make choice of one.

“This difference could not be reconciled but by the interposed authority of His Majesty and the Lords of his Council.

“After many allegations at the Council table on the one side and the other, it was at last determined by their Lordships (the King being then present) that neither the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, nor the Company, should have hereafter choice of the Captain nor any other of the Officers, but their election should wholly be reserved unto His Majesty (the Treasurer only excepted, which was left unto the Company’s free choice). It was then likewise ordered that His Majesty should immediately choose the Captain himself; but command was given unto the Lord Mayor and Aldermen as his substitutes, and until His Majesty should please to take that trouble upon himself, to make choice of all the other officers of the Company, as at large appears by Order, dated 18th April, 1632.

“Since that Order the accustomed exercise of Arms hath been neglected, and those officers of the Company which ought to have salaries have not been paid, and at the general days of exercise the appearance of the Company hath been so small that it hath seemed only to have the name of a Company, but really to be none

“Some of the Company, notwithstanding, are well pleased with what hath been established by the last Order, but they are so few in number that their goodwill for the present avails but little or nothing.

“Unless, therefore, some convenient order be taken for the reuniting of this disjointed Company, or else for the erecting of another (both which must be done by one and the same means), the commendable and most necessary exercise of Arms will be totally neglected in this City.

“But because His Majesty is pleased this Company shall not disband, but continue as heretofore, for the reuniting therefore of the said Company either of these ways may probably be taken :

“1. If His Majesty would be pleased to grant unto the Company all the privileges they formerly enjoyed ; or the same to be conferred upon the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

“2. If His Majesty would please that the Company might present three, whereof His Majesty to nominate one for Captain, as is done for the pricking of Sheriffs ; or else that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen might make the same presentment.

“3. If His Majesty will not alter the last Order made, then some privileges more than ordinary to be granted to the Company, which may invite men, besides the love of arms, to be of that Society.

“Whichsoever of these may be chosen, yet it may seem necessary that the Captain at his election be sworn an Officer to His Majesty.

“It may likewise be considered that none but the Captain or the Company in general can conveniently choose the inferior officers under the Captain, because none else can know who are fitting for the places.

“May it also be taken into consideration that whosoever shall elect the Captain, yet the entertainment for his service may be certain, and not arbitrary at the pleasure of the Company ; which entertainment may not seem to be less than ten shillings per diem, considering his continual attendance, the neglect of other employments, and his great expenses, which of necessity he

must be at for the honour of the City and reputation of the Company.

"Also, the present Captain (having been chosen by His Majesty) desireth so to continue, and not to lose so much honour as to be new elected by any other, although His Majesty should confer the election of the Captain upon the City, or Company.

"Lastly, when it shall be resolved what course must be taken for the settlement of the Company, that then orders be drawn up by such as the Lords Commissioners shall appoint, and then presented unto their said Lordships for confirmation." *

At a meeting of the Privy Council, on the 4th of July, it was stated that His Majesty, having a gracious care that the Company of the Artillery Garden might be settled, so that all subjects of contention should be wholly removed, and that from henceforth all things should be conducted quietly and decently, and the Company the more encouraged to continue their laudable military exercise, did, for the effecting thereof, signify his Royal pleasure in manner following, viz.,—That His Majesty would reserve to his own choice the appointing of the Captain; that the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen should have the election of the President, and that all other officers who did in any way belong or have relation to the Company should be chosen and appointed by the members of the Company; and, lastly, that both the Captain, for his pains in the execution of his place (wherein he was to use all care and diligence) should have an allowance of £50 a-year out of the money paid quarterly by the members of the Company; and that the officers who formerly received pay were also to have their accustomed salary. The Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, the President, Captain, and all others whom it might concern, were required, and in His Majesty's name expressly charged, to take particular notice, and to conform themselves accordingly thereunto. And the members of the Company, putting aside all differences, were speedily to return to their accustomed exercise of Arms, otherwise they

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCCVIII., No. 177.

would be esteemed contemptuous of His Majesty's commands and incur his high displeasure.*

1635.—During the reigns of James I. and Charles I. many towns petitioned the Privy Council for permission to form Military Societies similar to the Artillery Company. On the 22nd of October, 1625, the Captains and trained men of Bristol humbly begged to be allowed to establish "an Artillerie Yarde"; North Yarmouth next applied, on the 10th of January of the following year; and William Dutton, gentleman, of Chester, asked to be permitted to establish an Artillery Yard in that city at his own expense, and to be appointed Captain of it.† Ipswich applied for a like permission on the 29th of September, 1629, and Nottingham on the 31st of December in the same year; all of which were authorised to establish an "Artillery Yard," as requested, but in all cases they were to be under the control of their respective Aldermen.‡

Captain Francis Grove, and others exercising Arms in the Martial Yard in Southwark, petitioned the King, stating that they had taken ground at "Horssey down," Southwark, called the Martial Yard, which they had surrounded with a brick wall, for the practice of martial discipline; and asked for a licence to build an armoury, and that the ground for that purpose should be set out by the Earl Marshal, Chief Commissioner for Buildings.§

Maitland describes this ground in 1739 as having in olden times been a grazing-ground, called Horsedown, afterwards corrupted into Horselydown, and the ground then occupied by the church and cemetery of St. John's, Southwark, was formerly called the Artillery Ground, where the Trained Bands of Southwark used to exercise; there was also a large handsome building in Parish Street, called the Artillery House, afterwards converted into a workhouse. There was also another Military or Artillery

* Council Registers (Chas. I.) Vol. X., pp. 72, 73; Remembrancia, Vol. VII., No. 121, and Vol. VIII., No. 131.

† Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. I., pp. 141, 212, 325.

‡ Idem, Vol. V., pp. 446, 569.

§ Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCXL., No. 41 (with plans, &c.).

Ground, where Gerard Street was afterwards built, where the Middlesex Militia and Westminster Trained Bands used to exercise, in the parish of St. Anne's, Westminster, which had been taken from St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and created a separate parish in 1678.*

On the 6th of March, the "Military Company" by petition, informed the Council that they had purchased a piece of ground then called the Military Yard, in the name of certain feoffees, then members of the Company, and had lately erected an armoury on it for the safe keeping of their arms. The said Company were content and agreed that the said feoffees, for their indemnity should hold the ground and armoury in their own right until the money borrowed was repaid by the Company, to which effect they made a public Act, and thereupon all the feoffees had engaged themselves for the said moneys, save only one, John Collier, who, though he had been often entreated, refused either to engage himself for the said money, or to release the trust in him reposed. Their Lordships, taking these particulars into consideration, ordered, according to their petition, that the said Collier should either continue a member of the said Society, and stand engaged with the rest of the feoffees for such moneys as in his behalf were and should be necessarily borrowed, or else release the trust; and that if he would do neither of these he was to attend the Board without delay, to show cause to the contrary.†

On the arrival of the Ambassador of the Emperor of Morocco, on the 19th of October, 1637, about 400 of the gentlemen of the "Military," or Trained Bands, commanded by Capt. E. Porter, formed a guard of honour in the Strand, near Somerset House.‡

The above-named "Military Company" is probably the one referred to in the following:—

On the 8th of May "a Warrant directed to Endimion Porter, Esq., Captain at the Military Company, and to the Colonel of the Artillery, London."

"As the Council were given to understand that the Company of

* Maitland, pp. 716, and 787, 788

† Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. X., p. 461.

‡ Pageants: Guildhall Library.

Trained Bands are willing to honour the interment of the body of the Lord Vere, with their attendance upon it, the Council in respect of the nobleness and merit of his person think fit to give them leave to assemble and wait thereupon this evening, the 8th of May." A postscript says their Lordships' pleasure was that the funeral should be over before six o'clock.*

This was probably one of the societies formed in imitation of the Artillery Garden, which sprung up throughout the Kingdom, and of which mention has already been made.†

On the 25th of February, 1634, a Royal Warrant was issued to Sir John Heydon, Lieutenant of the Ordnance, to give orders for the making of a butt and platform at Foxhall [Vauxhall], similar to the one at the Artillery Garden.‡

The Artillery Company having applied for a piece of ground for their own exclusive use; at a Court of Aldermen, held on the 15th of October, it was ordered that, upon the humble petition of the President, Captains and Citizens exercising arms in the Artillery Garden, the Court, for the reasons expressed in the said petition, thought fit and ordered that Sir Hugh Hamersley, Sir George Whitmore, Knights and Aldermen, Mr. Alderman Broomfield, Mr. Alderman Fen, Sir Maurice Abbott, Knight and Alderman; Mr. Alderman Smith, Mr. Alderman Andrews, Mr. Stone and Mr. Pheasaunt, or any five of them, calling unto them Mr. Controller of the Chamber, should view so much of Bunhill Fields § as was desired by the said petitioners for exercise of the Company, and the Trained Bands of the City, and consider how the said Company might, with convenience, be accommodated in their desire, and report the same in writing to the Court.¶

1637.—On the 1st of March Alderman Smith, President of the Artillery Garden, requested the Court of Aldermen to dis-

* Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. X., p. 564.

† See p. 58.

‡ Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCLX., No. 102.

§ On the 13th of January, 1570, Henry, Lord Hudson, wrote from Berwick to Sir William Cecil, "If there was a fort made at Bunhill, it would be a great security to the Archers of Finsbury Fields." Domestic (Eliz.), Vol. XVII., 1570, and Addenda, Calendar of State Papers, 1566-70, p. 195.

¶ Repertory, Vol. XLIX., f. 329.

charge him in consequence of weakness of body: the Court acknowledging with thankfulness his long and good service in that position, complied with his request, and elected Alderman Andrews in his place.*

1638.—At a Meeting of the Council of War, at Hampton Court, on the 16th of September, it was stated that the proportion of powder ordinarily allowed for a charge for a musket was the full weight of the bullet, which was found too great, as the recoil occasioned made the men forbear to take aim, and to fire with rapidity and effect. The Earl of Newport was therefore requested to assemble some of the officers of the Artillery Garden, and others, to make trials with the full, and also with half, the ordinary charge, and to report thereon.†

Captain Walter Neale, the Captain of the Artillery Garden, presented a petition to the King, stating that he was formerly a suitor for the post of Muster-Master of the City, but that His Majesty did not then think it necessary to appoint such an officer, but had since recommended Captain Fisher for that place. He had, at great expense and continual trouble, effectually reunited and established the Company of the Artillery Garden, and had brought it to greater perfection than it had ever been before. There was also a necessary relation and dependence between the Muster-Master's place and that of Captain of the Company, who was bound to continual attendance and labour in exercising the principal citizens in martial discipline, whereby the forces of the City were always furnished with able commanders out of the Company, and the private soldiers made ready for the general musters, for which trouble he had only the small allowance of £50 per annum, and was then, from want of competent means, driven to great extremities. He therefore begged that His Majesty would consider his claims for the post, or refer them to the Privy Council.‡

The Corporation offered great opposition to the appointment

* Repertory, Vol. LII., f. 104.

† Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXCVIII., No. 95.

‡ Domestic (Jas. I.), Vol. LXXXIV., No. 42. This document has been inserted in a volume for the year 1615, which must be an error.

of a Muster-Master, as unnecessary; but, in the end, Captain Fisher was appointed.

As there had formerly been, for the security of the Colonies, "an experimented soldier with the title of Marshal," who had charge of all martial affairs, Captain Neale afterwards applied to be appointed Marshal in Virginia, with an allowance of 20s. per diem; which, he said, was, in proportion, far less than that formerly allowed to others,—to be paid out of the customs arising from the commodities of that Country, and that he might have means to plant some people of his own there.*

Later he again petitioned the King, setting forth his pretensions to the Government of New England, as he had served in all the King's expeditions for the past twenty years; commanded for four years and brought to perfection the Company of the Artillery Garden; lived three years in New England, and made greater discoveries than had ever been made before. "Exactly discovered" all the rivers and harbours in the habitable parts of the country; exerted himself for the general good of the country by reforming abuses; punished the cruelties of the natives, and compelled them to make peace; and he was also able to settle a staple trade of commodities, especially for building ships. He therefore prayed that he might be appointed Governor, but was not successful.†

At the request of the Captains and others exercising arms in the Artillery Garden, the Court of Aldermen, on the 21st of June, directed that the Committee appointed on the 15th of October, 1635, to view Bunhill Fields, which the Society Practising Arms in the said Garden had petitioned for exercise of themselves and the Trained Bands, might forthwith meet and pursue the directions of that order, as they are much hindered

* Colonial (Chas. I.), Vol. VI., No. 24.

† Colonial (Chas. I.), Vol. IX. No. 131. In 1631 (?) the Council of New England granted, by indenture, to Sir F. Georges and others the house and plantation situated on the River Piscataqua, lately belonging to Capt. W. Neale; and on the 4th of November, at Warwick House, Holborn, the Council sealed patents containing a grant of Capt. Neale's plantation to Capt. Thomas Cammock, consisting of 15,000 acres on the east side of the Blackpoint River. Colonial (Chas. I.), Vol. VI., Nos. 28, 29.

in performing their exercise in the Artillery Garden. The Court, having respect to that noble and worthy exercise, thought fit to order that Mr. Alderman Garroway, Mr. Alderman Gurney, and Mr. Alderman Gayer should join with the former Committees, and that they, or any five of them, calling unto them the Controller of the Chamber should, with all convenience, view as much of Bunhill Fields as the Company required, and report their opinion to the Court.

On the 31st of July, Aldermen Cranmer, Harrison, and Abbott, were added to the Committee, and were ordered to inquire into the objections of the Bowyers and Fletchers and others to Bunhill Fields being converted into an Artillery Garden.*

The Company having invited the Lord Mayor and Aldermen to their feast at Merchant Taylors' Hall, the Court of Aldermen, on the 16th of October, ordered the Chamberlain to pay the Stewards £10 as a gift towards the expenses.†

At a meeting of the Council, at Oatlands, on the 10th of September, their Lordships, by His Majesty's command, heard Sir J. Heydon, Kt., Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and Mr. Wemys, Master-Gunner of England, touching the difference between them concerning a dwelling-house, and the Artillery Garden, where His Majesty's feed and other gunners practised to discharge ordnance. As it appeared that the custody of the Garden was granted by Letters Patent, in express words, to the said Lieutenant of the Ordnance, notwithstanding that it was testified by several ancient men, that the said house and ground had for many years been enjoyed by the Master-Gunner of England, their Lordships referred the point of right to the Lord Treasurer and Lord Cottington, who were desired to call the Attorney-General, and to consider where the right did rest, and to certify to His Majesty their opinions thereof. In the meantime Sir J. Heydon promised their Lordships to deliver the possession of the said house to Mr. Wemys, in obedience to His Majesty's command, reserving still his right and interest therein, until it should be legally adjudged against him.‡

* Repertory, Vol. LII., f. 196, and 231b.

† Idem, f. 280.

‡ Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCXCVIII., No. 50. This Order is not contained in the Council Registers.

The Company had now attained great proficiency in the use and exercise of arms, and it was at that time held to be the most laudable exercise for diversion in use and practice amongst the citizens of London, they having almost an universal taste and relish of, and pleasure in, military achievements or exercises; so that not to be a complete soldier was not to be a man of note fit for the best company and conversation.*

On the 18th of October, the Company performed an exercise at arms in Merchant Taylors' Hall, before the Lord Mayor and other eminent citizens. About eighty members took part in this performance, which, from the accounts given of it, appears to have been more of a theatrical than a military display. Forty of them were equipped with modern arms, and twenty-two as Saracens, armed with short Barbary guns and scimitars, and broad Turkey daggers in their girdles, carrying an ensign with a Turkish device.†

Blackwell states that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were so pleased with this performance that they presented the Company with the military field or ground which they now occupy; but this is not correct, as, although they applied for it in October, 1635, it was not granted them until 1641.

The Company was then in a very flourishing state, and there were but few citizens of eminence who were not members of it.

1639. —At a Court of Aldermen, on the 23rd of January, Alderman Soame and Alderman Rudge were nominated for the place of President of the Company, when the former was "freely and lovingly chosen President of that Society."

On the 30th of September the Aldermen voted their usual gift of £10 towards the Company's feast, to which the Lord Mayor and Aldermen had been invited, "as a loving token from this Court"

His Majesty's letter of recommendation of Captain Philip

* Blackwell, pp. 2, 3.

† Mars: His Triumph, &c. An Exercise performed on the 18th of October, 1638, in Merchant Taylors' Hall, by certain Gentlemen of the Artillery Garden. London: 1639.

Skippon, as leader of the Company, was approved of, and he was duly admitted at a Court, on the 23rd of October.*

1640.—THE NEW ARTILLERY GARDEN.—On the 22nd of September, divers Captains, and others exercising arms in the Artillery Garden, humbly requested the Court of Aldermen, that the hither part of Bunhill Fields (to the stake, or near to it), might be granted to the Company for exercising themselves and the Trained Bands. The Court, taking it into consideration, thought that the City, as much as in them lay, should accommodate the Company with a grant of the said field; and for that purpose the Recorder, Alderman Soame, Alderman Wollaston, and Mr. Sheriff Adams, were added to the surviving Committees formerly assigned for that purpose. And that they, or any six or more of them, with some of the Captains, and others whom they should think fit to call unto them, should, with all convenience, view the said ground desired for the purpose, and cause a plan to be drawn and presented to the Court, and advise and consider all objections that might be made against the quiet enjoyment of the ground, and what was fit and requisite to be done for the firm and sure establishment thereof unto the said Society.†

1641.—The Committee appointed to consider the application of the Company for Bunhill Fields presented their Report to the Court of Aldermen on the 4th of February, stating that, according to an Order of the 22nd of September last, made upon the humble request of divers Captains of the City and others exercising Arms in the King's Artillery Garden, for the hither part of Bunhill Fields as a place for exercise, they were of opinion, and held it very fit and requisite, that for the better encouragement and advancing of that worthy exercise, the Society Practising Arms in the said Artillery Garden should be accommodated and granted their desire, by taking in and enclosing such part of Bunhill Field as they

* Repertory, Vol. LIII., ff. 74-5, 268, and 328.

† Idem, Vol. LIV., f. 307.

should think fit, to make them a new Artillery Garden for the exercise of themselves and the Trained Bands only, and not otherwise to be employed or disposed.

The Society had agreed with Mr. Dash, the City's tenant, for so much of the said field as they should think necessary to enclose for their use for all his time (which was fifteen years at Lady-day next), and he was to pay during that time the whole rent to the Chamber; which piece of ground they found the City held as lessees from the Prebend of Finsbury.

They were also of opinion, and thought it very fit that the Society should have, hold, and enjoy the same ground and field, by them to be set out and enclosed, for the exercise of arms, and that the Captains of the Trained Bands should have liberty, freely and without any charge or other thing to be given or required, to train and exercise the Trained Bands in the same ground, and that the ground should not be converted to any other use or purpose; for the better preventing whereof they thought fit that the lease to be granted to the Society should be conditional to the effect aforesaid. They also thought that, from and after the fifteen years, the Society should pay to the Chamber some small yearly rent, and their lease should be for such term of years as his Lordship and the Common Council should think fit. Dated 27th January, 1641.

The Report was approved of and recommended to the consideration of the next Common Council.*

At a Court of Common Council, held on the 24th of March, Sir George Whitmore, Kt. and Alderman, Mr. Alderman Gurney, Mr. Alderman Gayër, Mr. Alderman Wollaston, and Mr. Alderman Adams (Committees formerly appointed to consider of the humble request of the Captains and others exercising Arms in the Artillery Garden, London, that they might have the hither part of Bunhill Fields granted to the said Society for exercise of themselves and the Trained Bands of the City), delivered to the Court a report in writing, under their hands, dated the 4th of February, of their opinions therein, which was as follows, viz.:—

* Repertory, Vol. LV., f. 64.

“To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of the City of London and his Right Worshipful Brethren the Aldermen of the same City. May it please your Lordships that according to an Order of this Honourable Court, of the two and twentieth of September last passed, made upon the humble request of divers Captains of this City, and others exercising Arms in the King's Artillery Garden, London, that the hither part of Bunhill Fields, to the stake, or near thereunto, might be granted to the said Society for exercising of themselves and the Trained Bands of this City. By which Order this Honourable Court, taking that worthy exercise into due consideration, did think fit that this City, as much as in them lay, should by grant accommodate the said Society with the said field. We, whose names are hereunto written, Committees appointed by the said order (and former orders in that behalf made by this Hon. Court), do certify our opinions concerning the same, as followeth, viz. :—

“We are of opinion, and hold it very fit and requisite, that (for the better encouragement and advancing of that worthy exercise) the Society practising Arms in the said Artillery Garden be accommodated, and granted their desire, by taking in and enclosing such part of Bunhill Field as they shall think fit to make them a new Artillery Garden, for exercise of themselves and the Trained Bands of this City, only and not otherwise to be employed or disposed.

“That the said Society practising Arms have agreed with Mr. Dash, the City's tenant, for so much of the said field as that Society shall think necessary to enclose for their use, for all his time, which is fifteen years from our Lady-day next; and Mr. Dash to pay, during that time, the whole rent to the Chamber. Which piece of ground we find the City holdeth as lessees from the Prebend of Finsbury.

“We also are of opinion, and think it very fit, that the said Society exercising Arms as aforesaid, shall have, hold, and enjoy, the same ground and field, so by them to be set out and enclosed, for the exercise of arms for themselves and the Trained Bands this City; and that the Captains of the Trained Bands of this City shall have liberty freely, and without any charge or other

thing to be given or required, to train and exercise the Trained Bands of this City in the same ground. And that ground not to be converted to any other use or purpose; for the better preventing whereof we think fit that the lease to be granted to the said Society be conditioned to the effect aforesaid. We also think fit that from and after the fifteen years the Society pay to the Chamber some small yearly rent, and their lease to be for such term of years as your Lordship and the Common Council of this City shall think fit. All which, notwithstanding, we humbly leave to the grave judgment of this honourable Court. This eight-and-twentieth day of January, A.D. 1641. George Whitmore, Richard Gurney, John Gayer, John Wollaston, Thomas Adams.

“The which Report being here openly read, was allowed of, and ordered to be entered into the Repertory. And for the better effecting of what is desired by the said Society, this Court doth recommend their suit, and the said Report, to the consideration of the next Common Council to be holden for the affairs of this City. The which Report, after the reading thereof, was well liked and allowed of. And, thereupon, it is enacted, granted, and agreed, by this Common Council, that the said Report shall, in all points, as much as in this Court lieth for to do, be ratified and confirmed. And this Court doth hereby ratify and confirm the same.

“And it is further ordered by this Court that a lease shall be made of the premises to such and so many persons of the said Society as they shall nominate for such term of years as the City hath to come therein, except the last four years of the City's term, which the City shall reserve to themselves and under such covenants and conditions for the better enabling of the City to renew their lease, or otherwise, as the learned Council of this City shall think fit, for and under the yearly rent of six shillings and eightpence, to be paid to the City for an acknowledgment. The first yearly payment to begin to be made at our Lady-day, which shall be in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fifty-six.”*

* Journal, Vol. XL., f. 1b, 2; and Letter Book QQ, f. 2.

At a Court of Common Council, held on the 25th of June, it was moved by Mr. Recorder, "That whereas, at a Common Council here, holden the 24th of March last, it was then ordered that a lease should be made of the hither part of Bunhill Fields to such and so many persons of the Society Exercising Arms in the Artillery Garden as should be nominated for such term as the City had to come therein (except the last four years of the City's term), which the City should reserve unto themselves, and under such covenants and conditions for the better enabling of the City to renew their lease or otherwise as the learned Counsel of this City should think fit, for and under the yearly rent of six shillings and eightpence, to be paid to the City for an acknowledgment; the first yearly payment to be made at our Lady-day, which should be in the year of our Lord God, 1656, as by the said Act of Common Council appeareth. And where it is now alleged that there is a covenant mentioned in the draft of the said lease, that if, in case the City during the said term should procure a new lease of the premises (amongst other things) for a further term of years, that then, upon notice given, or left to, or for the Trustees in the said lease named, or their Assigns, at the demised premises, of such their intent and purpose. That then the Trustees or their Assigns should within

— next, after such notice, surrender and yield up the said lease, term, and interest of and in the premises, unto the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of this City, their successors or assigns. In regard whereof it is now desired by the Trustees, in the behalf of the said Society, that it may be ordered by this Court that, if in case the City shall renew their lease for a further term of years, that then, upon surrender by the Trustees, or their Assigns, of the said lease, as aforesaid, there may be a new lease made to the Trustees, or their Assigns, of the premises for all such term of years as the City shall have to come in their new lease (except the four last years thereof), for and under such rent, covenants, and conditions, as in the former lease are reserved and mentioned *mutatis mutandis*. Now, upon deliberate consideration had by this Common Council of the request of the said Trustees on the behalf of the said Society, this Court, being desirous to



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encourage that Society, and to have the exercise of Arms maintained and continued for the public good and discipline of the citizens of this City, doth grant and order, That if the City shall hereafter procure a new lease for a further term of years of and in the premises (and the Trustees or their Assigns surrendering up their lease to the City as aforesaid), that then a new lease shall be granted unto them for such term of years as the City shall have in their new lease (except the four last years thereof) for and under such rent, covenants, and conditions, as in their former lease was reserved and mentioned.”*

This year is also memorable as being the first in which any members of the Royal family joined the Company and added their names to their long roll of distinguished members. On the 1st of June, Charles, Prince of Wales (afterwards Charles II.); Charles, Count Palatine and Duke of Bavaria; and James, Duke of York (afterwards James II.), became members of the Company, from which time either the King or Prince of Wales have almost always held the command of the Company, under the ancient but now obsolete title of “Captain-General,” which is still retained. During the first year and a-half of the Civil War a considerable number of members were elected, but from the 22nd of April, 1644, to the 28th of January, 1657, the election of members was entirely suspended.

* Journal, Vol. XL., f. 3; and Letter Book QQ, f. 4.

CHAPTER V.

THE CITY TRAINED BANDS AND THE CIVIL WAR.

FROM 1612 TO 1660.

CONTENTS.—Trained Bands Officered by the Company.—Musters in reigns of Elizabeth and James I.—Four Regiments of Trained Bands raised 1616.—Lord Mayor appointed their General.—Petition of Long-bow Makers.—Four Companies of Archers formed 1627.—Office of Muster-Master.—Capt. Fisher appointed by the King.—Corporation refuse to pay him.—Orders of King and Privy Council thereon.—Trained Bands increased in 1642.—Six Regiments of Auxiliaries raised.—Skippon to command City Forces.—The City and the Parliament.—Trained Bands volunteer for Service.—Prepare to March.—Proceed to Gloucester.—Skirmish at Stow.—The Battle of Newbury.—Their return to London.—Entry into the City.—The Muster in the New Artillery Garden.—Strength of the Regiments.—Their Arms and Colours.—Again called out for Service in 1644.—Cost of Arms and Accoutrements.—Muster in Hyde Park, 1646.—London Volunteer Regiments.—Trained Bands disbanded, 1663.—London Trained Bands changed to Militia, 1794.

ALTHOUGH the Company never belonged to the force known as the "Trained Bands," nor took any active part as a body in the Civil Wars, as by many has been supposed, yet, as the Trained Bands were officered by members of the Company, or by men who had previously received their instruction and training in their ranks, the two were, consequently, so closely connected that no record of the Company would be complete without some reference to their existence, and the conspicuous part they played at this important epoch of English history.

From the time when the military forces of the country were reorganised by James I., by the name of Trained Bands, the officers seem to have learnt their duties and qualified them-

selves for their position by becoming members of the Company, and for this reason the Company is constantly referred to as forming a nursery from whence efficient officers were obtained. At a later period, during the reign of George III., the officers and sergeants were required to become members of the Company, and promotion was only given to those who could produce certificates of membership. William III., in his Warrant to the Company in 1697, says, "We therefore recommend unto your care that all the Commission Officers of the Trained Bands of our said City may list themselves members of the said Society, that so, by the frequent practice of Arms according to their rules, they may be the better qualified to perform their trust in their respective commands." This clause is contained in all the subsequent Warrants to the Company, including the last one from Her Majesty, dated the 3rd of July, 1863.

On the 2nd of July, 1559, a muster was held at Greenwich of the men of the City Companies, consisting of 800 pikemen, all in fine corselets; 400 haquebuts, in shirts of mail; and 200 halberders, in almanrincts, under the command of "Captains Robert Constable and Mayster Saunders," who brought them in battle array before the Queen, "which made a goodly show before Her Majesty,—the Emperor's and French King's Ambassadors being present."*

Early in the year 1585 about 4,000 men were chosen out of the Companies of the City by command of the Queen; they were composed principally of "shot," or men armed with hand-guns, the remainder having pikes or halberds. They mustered daily at Mile-end, and in St. George's Field, and were inspected by the Queen at Greenwich, the men being quartered about Blackheath.†

The Privy Council wrote to the Lord Mayor on the 30th of November, 1614, directing that, by virtue of His Majesty's Commission, dated the 21st of August, 1605, a General Muster was to be made of the forces of the City, and especially of such trained men as were enrolled in the reign of Elizabeth, who

* Stow's Chronicles, p. 1,112.

† Hollingshed, p. 1,402; and Strype's Stow, Vol. II., p. 451.

were to be organised into companies by the name of Trained Bands; and vacancies were to be completed from householders and substantial persons. All armour and weapons were to be repaired, and the Trained Bands trained at convenient times; and the 6,000 men lately enrolled under His Majesty's commission were also to be completely armed.*

Another letter from the Privy Council, dated the 17th of March, 1616, ordered that the City Bands should consist of four regiments of five companies each, and the Lord Mayor for the time being to be their General, thereby making the forces more useful in case of sudden alarm.†

The regiments were organised as follows :—

EAST REGIMENT.

Sir THOMAS LOWE, Kt., Colonel.

Captain Bond	...	Aldgate Ward...	...	Supplied	Portoken Ward.
„ Stiles	...	Langbourn Ward	...	{	Billingsgate, Queen- hithe, Bishopsgate, and Dowgate.
„ Lasher	...	Tower Ward	...		
„ Robinson		Coleman Street Ward		„	Castle Baynard Ward.
„				„	Bishopsgate Ward.
„ Spering	..	{ Lime Street & Corn- hill	{ }	„	Billingsgate Ward.

Their rendezvous to be between Leadenhall and St. Mary Axe.

WEST REGIMENT.

Sir THOMAS MIDDLETON, Kt., Colonel.

Captain Wallthall and	{	Farringdon Without.
„ Walker	 }	
„ Henshawe	...	Farringdon Within.
„ Edney		Part of both Wards.
„ Williams		Bread Street Ward.

Their rendezvous to be from Temple Bar to Serjeants' Inn.

* Letter Book FF, f. 34.

† Letter Book FF, f. 147^b and 148; and Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. II., 202.

NORTH REGIMENT.

Sir JOHN WATTS, Kt., Colonel.

Captain Smith	... Cheap Ward		Supplied	Queenhithe Ward.
„ Garraway	Candlewick Street	... }	„	Aldgate and Bread Street.
„ Swinton &	Cripplegate Without	... }	„	Portsoken Ward.
„ Venn	... and Within	... }	„	
„ Milward	Bread Street and	... }	„	Bishopsgate Ward.
	Basinghall ..	... }		

Their rendezvous to be in West Smithfield.

SOUTH REGIMENT.

Sir JOHN SWYNERTON, Kt., Colonel.

Captain Leate	... Bridge Ward		Supplied	Billingsgate Ward.
„ Dike and	Dowgate, Vintry, and	... }	„	Langbourne
„ Andrews	Wallbrook	... }	„	
„ Hamersley	Corlwainer Street		„	Queenhithe
„ Halsey	Castle Baynard		„	Tower

Their rendezvous to be from the Lord Bishop of London's house "allongest y^e Truncemakers."

On the 9th of February, 1619, an Order in Council was issued stating that preparations were being made almost throughout Christendom, so that for the safety of the kingdom His Majesty ordered a Muster to be held, and the Trained Bands completed, with substantial persons fit for the same, with muskets and pikes, all to be ready at ten days' notice.*

On the 19th of September, 1620, the Court of Aldermen ordered the "training for martial affairs" for that year to be suspended, and the training in future to take place on the 10th of April, unless it fell on a Sunday.†

On the 28th of March, 1622, the Court sanctioned giving the twenty Captains of the City £5 each, towards the expense of the training, which was changed to the 11th of April in each year.‡

On the 10th of July, 1626, 4,000 soldiers were ordered by the Privy Council to be ready, besides the trained bands, on account of the great preparation, both in Spain and Flanders, with designs

* Council Registers (Jas. I.), Vol. IV., pp. 94, 95.

† Repertory, Vol. XXXIV., f. 553. ‡ Idem, Vol. XXXVI., f. 100.

upon the Kingdom. His Majesty thought it expedient for safety, and "wisely considered that the Militia, well ordered, is the constant bulwark and defence of this Kingdom, upon the strength and peace of which the safety of the West doth principally depend." A view of the Trained Bands was therefore to be immediately taken.*

The Long-Bow Makers of the City petitioned the Lords of the Council, in February, 1627, stating that they were incorporated by James I., and that their Charter contained a clause commanding that the exercise of the long-bow should be brought into use; but the Company had declined until there were not above four of them left, and they were unable to take apprentices, so that the mystery of making long-bows was likely to be utterly forgotten in the kingdom, and prayed that the Orders of the Court of Aldermen for their advancement might be confirmed.†

On the 30th of August, 1627, the Committee appointed by the Court of Aldermen to consider the Bowyers' petition reported that they had sent for several of the principal Archers then remaining in the City, viz., Capt. Walker, Mr. Ayseough, Mr. William Hodges, Mr. Rowland Wilson and Mr. Wood, to confer with them on the subject. They thought the best way to revive shooting with the long-bow was to divide the City into four parts, or regiments [companies], viz., North, East, West and South, with Alderman Hodges as Colonel, assisted by four Captains; Mr. Nicholas Ascough, Captain of West Regiment; Mr. J. Wood, North Regiment; Mr. William Hodges, South; and Mr. Rowland Wilson, of the East Regiment. The Captains were to furnish their several regiments with as many volunteers who could use the long-bow, as possible; and if volunteers did not come forward, then as many inhabitants residing in their districts as were liable by law to furnish themselves with a bow

* Journal, Vol. XXXIII., f. 267^b.

† Remembrancia, Vol. VI., No. 143. The principal City Companies who manufactured arms, &c., were the Armourers, the Fletchers (Charter exemplified 1st February, 1605; Journal, Vol. XXVII., f. 21^b *et seq.*), Bowyers, 1620 (Charter exemplified 25th May, 1627; Journal, Vol. XXXIV., ff. 119-25), and the Gun Makers (Charter exemplified 14th March, 1637; Journal, Vol. XXXVIII., f. 60-67^b).

and quiver of arrows. The constables and other officers in every parish and ward of the City were directed to put in force all the penalties for unlawful games under the Statute of 33 Henry VIII. Once a-year the Captains were to lead their regiments into the fields to practise, and to shoot for prizes; the first prize, of the value of 20s.; second, 13s. 4d.; third, 10s.; and fourth, 6s. 8d.: the charges being paid by the Chamber of London. Each of the four Captains was to provide an "antient" of taffeta colours, and an allowance was granted by the Corporation to the lieutenant, sergeant and drummer. These suggestions were approved of and ordered to be submitted to the Privy Council for confirmation.*

The office of Muster-Master† in the City having fallen into disuse, the King wrote from Windsor on the 13th of September, 1635, to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, stating that this office was of such necessary use that there was not one county in England without one; and as His Majesty understood that there was no such officer in the City of London, and knowing the abilities of Captain John Fisher, recommended him to be chosen for that office for life, with such fees as should be fit.

The Corporation, not wishing to appoint such an officer, made numerous excuses; but on the 10th of March, 1636, Mr. Secretary Windebank wrote to them saying that their reasons were not satisfactory, and as the King thought it most necessary to have a Muster-Master, they were to assemble forthwith and choose one.‡

On the 16th of March, the Court of Aldermen appointed a Committee to attend the Secretary the following day on the subject; they were also directed to present a petition to the Privy Council to mediate for them, that Captain Fisher should not

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. LXXV., No. 74; and Remembrancia, Vol. VI., No. 147.

† There was at one time a Master of the Ordnance for the City. On the 4th of November, 1474, Richard Chamberlyn, Founder, was admitted to the office of Master of the Ordnance and Keeper of the Habiliments of War of the City. Journal, Vol. VIII., f. 89^b.

‡ Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCXCVII., No. 41, and Vol. CCCXV., No. 103.

be appointed, and also to intercede with the Lord Chamberlain not to press the matter further.*

On the 18th of December, 1637, Capt. Fisher was made Muster-Master in the City during the King's pleasure, with the same fees as the Muster-Master of Kent.† The Corporation, however, refused to admit him to the office, and he therefore petitioned the Privy Council.‡

He next applied to the Council, stating that he had viewed the Arms of the City Companies, and that they were willing to make the necessary repairs, and desired that the King should signify to the Lord Mayor that he was to be allowed to mark the arms; also to cause the drums to beat up for a muster, and that he might have a yearly allowance.§ To enable him to do real service, he petitioned the Earl Marshal for permission to inspect the Companies, and see that all the defects in his last view had been made good; that all men charged with furnishing arms should be required to serve with their own arms if able, or else find a good householder as a substitute; that, according to the King's direction to the last Lord Mayor, the arms might be marked to prevent the common abuse of borrowing; and lastly, that the Captains should deliver to him a true list of the strength of their Companies.||

On the 20th of October, 1638, the King sent a letter to the Lord Mayor, saying Captain Fisher complained that, although the post of Muster-Master had been granted to him under the Great Seal, that no allowance had yet been settled on him; and His Majesty required that he should be paid the same as Muster-Masters of other counties, viz., a shilling for every foot- and two shillings for every horseman.¶ The dispute about his pay continued nearly all the following year. On the 6th of January 1639, the Privy Council sent for the Recorder and Aldermen, as they had refused to pay him; and on the 26th of August

* Repertory, Vol. L., ff. 155, 157, 240.

† Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCLXXIV., No. 20.

Idem, Vol. CCCVI., No. 97. § Idem, Vol. CCCXL., No. 42.

|| Idem, Vol. CCCXXXVIII., No. 5.

¶ Remembrancia, Vol. VII., No. 210.

the Council issued an order for him to be paid, without delay, for the previous two years, at the rate of sixpence a head per annum for every soldier in the Trained Bands, being the same rate as allowed in Kent; and the Captains of the several Companies were to collect it from the men and pay it to him yearly.

The King again wrote, on the 1st of November, directing that Captain Fisher was to be paid what was due to him, and intimating that any further delay would be interpreted as a contempt of the Royal authority, and that some coercive means would be used; upon which all the City Captains were summoned to hear the decision of the Court of Aldermen, and decide on an answer to His Majesty's letter.*

On the 13th of February 1638, an Order from the Inner Star Chamber directed the reform of defects and abuses in the Trained Bands, and that the arms should be marked to prevent the abuses occasioned by borrowing; and the Lord Mayor and Aldermen should confer with Captain Fisher and give him every assistance.

On the 18th of February a Warrant was issued to raise 3,000 men from the Trained Bands for service against the Scots.†

The King sent a warrant to the Lord Mayor, dated the 15th of May 1640, requiring him forthwith to raise 1,000 able and well-affected men out of the Trained Bands, or as many more as he should think necessary, to suppress, slay, kill, destroy, and apprehend all such as should be tumultuously assembled in or about Southwark, Lambeth, Blackheath, or elsewhere in parts adjacent.‡

The Trained Bands were ordered to be increased on the 19th of January, 1642, and the pay of the Captains was fixed at 50s. for every day or night that they had been ordered abroad with their Companies since the 4th of that month, towards the payment of their officers, and other charges.

On the 22nd of January, the Committee of the House of

* Domestic (Chas. I.), Vol. CCCCIX., No. 33; Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., Nos. 213 and 222; Repertory, Vol. LIV., f. 2; and Council Registers (Chas. I.), Vol. XVI.

† Remembrancia, Vol. VIII., Nos. 220 and 221. ‡ Idem, No. 229.

Commons appointed to sit in Grocers' Hall directed the Court of Common Council to choose the Commanders for the Militia,* and present their names to the House the next day for approval; and on the 12th of February the House ordered the Common Council to include Sergt.-Major General Skippon in those nominated by them for the command of the Militia of the City, which was agreed to.

An Order was issued by the Common Council, on the same day, to increase the Trained Bands to forty companies of soldiers of 200 and upwards each, or 8,000 men. This was agreed to at a Court on the 19th of March, and fifty-five persons (twenty of whom were previously Captains) were nominated, from whom forty were to be chosen by the Militia Committee, who, on the 4th of April, recommended the appointment of six Colonels and thirty-four Captains, which was referred to them to carry out.†

At a Court of Common Council, on the 17th of May, 1642, the Earl of Holland and Lord Kimbolton attended, and said they were directed by the House of Lords to thank the Militia Committee, Colonels, Captains, and other officers, for their care and pains in keeping up the City forces so well, and especially at their last general training, for which they thanked them, and as they had found by experience that the citizens were so ready and willing to help them in defence of the Parliament, they would be ready to do anything in their power for the good and safety of the City. The House of Commons also sent a deputation at the same time with a vote of thanks for putting the ordinances for the Militia so speedily and orderly into execution.‡

On the 18th of October the Militia Committee reported to the Court of Common Council that, on the previous Saturday, some of them had attended, by order of the close Committee of Par-

* The Committee appointed by the City to arrange all military affairs and superintend the Trained Bands was known as the "Committee of Militia." Their functions afterwards devolved on the Court of Lieutenancy, who exist at the present day. The Trained Bands at that time were frequently spoken of as the "Militia."

† Letter Book QQ, ff. 19, 21, 24, 37, and 38. These additional companies were probably organised into the six regiments known afterwards as the Auxiliaries.

‡ Idem, f. 40.

liament, and were informed by them that, in all probability, Prince Rupert would be soon close to London, and inquired "what forces they were willing to spare for the present in a free and voluntary way to issue out of the City to meet and check the adverse party," and also what horses they could provide. The Militia Committee thought that twelve companies of the Trained Bands might be sent to join the forces of adjacent counties in repelling the "adverse party."

All the Companies, on being acquainted with this resolution, were unanimous in their desire to be employed on this service, and it was thought by the Captains that the decision ought to be by lot, which was accordingly carried out, with the following result; the Red Regiment, Sergt.-Major Mainwaring; White Regiment, Capt. Hooker; Yellow Regiment, Capt. Player, and Capt. Harvey; Blue Regiment, Capt. Tichborne, and Sergt.-Major Geere; Green Regiment, Lieut.-Colonel Foster, and Capt. Blackwell; Lieut.-Colonel Matthew Foster, and Sergt.-Major Owen Roe; and for the Orange Regiment, Lieut.-Colonel Willson, and Major Buxton.

The close Committee of the House were therefore informed that the said twelve companies, with such of their soldiers as were willing to go with them, were prepared to go to such rendezvous as the House should direct, for the defence of Religion, the King, Kingdom, Parliament, and the City.*

* Letter Book QQ, f. 51. See also Ordinance for raising Troops for the Defence of London, containing certain propositions made by Parliament to the Trained Bands of the City, 17th October, 1642, for drawing out fifty men per company to join the bands of other counties to stop the Cavaliers coming to London. Also, a list of the Colonels and their colours, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and Lieutenants, appointed by the Committee of Militia, 1642—viz., Alderman Atkins, Colonel of Red Regiment; Alderman Pennington, Colonel of White Regiment; Alderman Wollaston, Colonel of Yellow Regiment; Alderman Adams, Colonel of Blue Regiment; Alderman Warner, Colonel of Green Regiment; and Alderman Tower, Colonel of Orange Regiment. (Guildhall Library.)

There is also an interesting MS. in the Guildhall Library, entitled, "A Few Words to the Trained Bands and Soldiers of London City in these perilous times. By C. Edmonds, Remembrancer. 19th June, 1642." This volume contains a description of the various formations and evolutions to be practised by the Trained Bands, somewhat similar to the drill books of the present day.

On the 17th of November, 1642, the Lord Mayor received a letter, dated the previous day, from the Lord General the Earl of Essex, from his quarters at Hammersmith, informing him that he had chosen Sergt.-Major Skippon to be Sergt.-Major General of the Army, being well assured of his fidelity and ability to discharge that trust. The Common Council approved of the appointment in consideration of the great and weighty reasons for his selection, although they were daily in need of his advice and employment, as they depended so much on his ordering the Militia for the safety of the City; yet they desired that if any sudden occasion should require him for the defence of the City, that he should return, nevertheless they would continue his salary during his absence.*

The City of Gloucester being closely besieged by the King, the Committee of Militia, by virtue of an ordinance of both Houses of Parliament, of the 17th of August, required all persons to close their shops until Gloucester was relieved, and the necessary steps were ordered to be at once taken with this object.

Six regiments—one of horse, two of the Trained Bands, and three of the Auxiliaries—were got ready with incredible celerity, and joined the main army, with a train of artillery, on the 4th of September, on Brackley Heath; and upon their arrival in the neighbourhood of Gloucester the Royalists raised the siege.†

The following interesting account‡ of the march of the Trained Bands, from the time they left London on the 23rd of August, until their return on the 28th of September, including the part

* Letter Book QQ, f. 52.

† Maitland, Vol. I., pp. 373, 374.

‡ "A true and exact Relation of the Marchings of the Two Regiments of the Trained Bands of the City of London, being the Red and Blew Regiments. As also, Of the Three Regiments of the Auxiliary Forces, the Blew, Red, and Orange, who marched forth for the reliefe of the City of Gloucester, from August 23 to Sept. 28. Wherein the most materiall passages of every dayes Marchings are briefly delineated. As also a true description of the severall Battells and Skirmishes had against the Enemy at Stow-the-old, Sept. 4; at Aburne Chase, September 18; and at Newbery, Septem. 20. Set forth for the satisfaction of many who earnestly desired information hercin. By Henry Foster, quondam Sergeant to Captain George Mosse. Oct. 2nd, 1643." British Museum $\frac{E. 69}{15}$. London, 1643. 4o.

they took in the Battle of Newbury, and other engagements, is given by one of the Sergeants:—

“Upon Wednesday, the 23rd of August, our Red Regiment of the Trained Bands, marched into the new Artillery Ground, and from thence that night we marched to Brainford, and came thither about one o'clock in the morning; from whence, the next day, many of our citizens, who seemed very forward and willing at the first to march with us, yet upon some pretences and fair excuses returned home again, hiring others to go in their room; others returned home again the same night, before they came to Brainford.

“Upon Friday, the 25th of August, we advanced from Brainford to Uxbridge, where our Regiments were quartered there that night, and marched away the next morning.

“*Saturday, the 26th of August.*—We advanced to a town six miles beyond Uxbridge, called Chaffan, where we were quartered that night; at this town, a soldier, belonging to Lieutenant-Colonel Tompson was accidentally slain by shooting off a musket by one of his fellow-soldiers, though at a great distance from him, yet shot him in the head, whereof he died.

“*Sabbath-day, 27th August.*—We advanced from Chaffan, near to a village called Chessun; this day, the Blue Regiment of the Trained Bands, and the three Regiments of the Auxiliary Forces, met us upon a great common, about three miles from Chessun. Our whole Regiment was quartered at one Mr. Cheyney's house, an Esquire, where we were well accommodated for beer, having great plenty; two or three hundred of us this night lay in one barn.

“*Monday, the 28th of August.*—We advanced from thence to a town called Asson-Clinton, a little village three miles from Aylesbury; we continued here one day and two nights.

“*Wednesday, the 30th of August.*—We advanced from thence to a village called Clayden; this day the Lord General's Army and our Regiment of the Trained Band, together with the Auxiliary forces, met at Aylesbury; the great guns were fired at every fort about the town as the Lord General passed by. This was the Fast-day: our Regiment was quartered this night

at Sir Ralph Verney's House—a Parliament man; his father, the King's standard-bearer, was slain at Edgehill.

*“Thursday, the 31st of August.—*We advanced from thence to a village called Stretton Ardley. This night all our Brigade, consisting of six Regiments, viz.: Colonel Manwaring's Red Regiment, two Regiments of Trained Bands, and three of the Auxiliary, were all quartered at this little village. It is conceived we were in all of this Brigade about 5,000. Here was little provision either for officers or soldiers, the night before we came hither. The Cavaliers were at Bister, two miles from this village, and six miles from Oxford, but were beaten out of it by our soldiers, and the Lord General with his Army quartered there this night.

*“Friday, the 1st day of September.—*We advanced from hence to a place called Bayards-Green, in Oxfordshire, being three miles distant from Brackley, and eight from Banbury, where our Brigade met my Lord General with his whole Army, whereat was great shouting and triumph as he passed by to take a view of our Regiments, the whole Army being drawn up in their several Regiments, continued there about an hour, and then we marched away. It was a goodly and glorious sight to see the whole Army of Horse and Foot together. It is conceived, by those that viewed our Army well, that we did consist of (to speak of the least) 15,000 horse and foot, some speak of many more. This day good news was brought us concerning Gloucester and Exeter. From hence we marched this day to a village called Souldern, four miles from Banbury, where our six Regiments, that came from London, were quartered, and my Lord General and the rest of the Army were quartered about a mile from us at a market town called Ano-on-the-Hill; we were very much scanted of victuals in this place.

*“Saturday, 2nd September.—*We advanced from hence to Hookmorton, twenty-five miles from Gloucester, at which village our whole Brigade was quartered. This day, the Lord General's Troops had some skirmish with the Cavaliers; it is reported there was eight slain of the enemy's party, and one of ours. From hence we marched away the next morning.

*“Sabbath-day, 3rd September.—*We advanced from hence to

a little village called Addington, about a mile from Stow-the-Old, the hithermost town in Gloucestershire, and about twenty miles from Gloucester, where in our march this day we again met the Lord General's Army upon a great common about half a mile from Chipping Norton; at which place also our five regiments departed from his army, and marched to the village aforesaid. The Blue Regiment of the Trained Bands marched in the van, and took up the first quarter in the town; the other three regiments of the Auxiliary Forces, were quartered at the adjacent villages; whereupon our Red Regiment of the Trained Band was constrained to march half a mile further to get quarter. We were now in the van of the whole Army, having not so much as one Troop of Horse quartered near us: but we were no sooner in our quarters, and set down our arms, intending a little to refresh ourselves, but presently there was an alarm beat up, and we being the frontier regiment nearest to the enemy were presently all drawn up into a body, and stood upon our guard all that night. We were in great distraction, having not any Horse to send out as scouts, to give us any intelligence; my Lord General with his army lay at Chipping Norton, about three miles behind us, who had an alarm there given by the enemy the same night also. Our regiment stood in the open field all night, having neither bread nor water to refresh ourselves, having also marched the day before without any sustenance, neither durst we kindle any fire, though it was a very cold night.

Monday, 4th September.—We got some refreshment for our soldiers, which was no sooner done, but news was brought to us that the enemy was within half a mile of the town, which proved to be true, for presently one rid down to us, having his horse shot in the neck, all bloody, and told us the enemy was at the town's-end; also one trooper slain a quarter of a mile above the town; one of our soldiers stripped him and brought his clothes to us. It was a little open village, the enemy might have come in upon us every way, therefore we, conceiving it not safe to abide in the town, drew up our regiment presently into a body, and marched into a broad open-field to the top of the hill; the Blue Regiment of the Trained Bands were quartered

within less than half a mile of us, but came not up to us. Being come into the field we saw about 4,000 or 5,000 of the enemy's Horse surrounding us: one rid post to my Lord General to inform him of it. One great body of their Horse stood facing us upon the top of the hill at our town's end, within less than a quarter of a mile from us; another great body of their horse was in the valley, upon our right flank as we stood; and a third great squadron of their horse were going up to the top of a hill in rear of us, by all which it appears they had an intent to have surrounded our City Regiments, and to have cut us off; we stood and faced one another for the space of half an hour, then six or seven of our men who had horses rode up to them, and came within less than musket shot, flourishing their swords, daring them; and one or two of our men fired upon their forlorn hope. We had lined the hedges with musketeers, which, they perceiving, did not move towards our body, but only stood and faced us. Then some of the Auxiliary Forces came up to us; at whose coming we gave a great shout, and then by-and-by after we saw my Lord General's forces coming down the hill, about a mile and a half behind us; my Lord drew out the forlorn hope upon the hill as they came down, who fired three or four drakes against the enemy's horse that were near them on the top of the hill that were coming upon the rear of us, and made them retreat to the rest of the body; their intent was to have compassed us in on every side, but the Lord prevented them; they might have spoiled our whole regiment, had they in the morning come down upon us when we were taking a little food to refresh ourselves, the enemy being then but half a mile off; a great many of the Cavaliers lay all night within less than half a mile of us, which we perceived in our march the next day; I hope the mercy of that day will not be forgotten.

“When this was done, my L. General's forces marched up to our brigade: when they were come we drew forth our forlorn hope, and marched up to the body of their horse that stood facing us on the top of the hill: we fired some drakes at them, they retreated; then the Lord General drew up his great guns, they faced us again, we fired two great pieces of ordnance at them and then they retreated up to the town of Stow, and

drew up all their horse into a body and stood upon the side of the hill facing us; then we let fly two or three of our greatest ordnance at them; they all fled, and we pursued them and followed them three miles; then they stood and faced the Lord General again about the going down of the sun; we fired at them a great while, marching up towards them five or six regiments together, all in a body, about 800 or 1,000 abreast, six deep, we having room enough, it being a brave champian country: which goodly show did so much the more daunt the enemy that (as it is reported) Prince Rupert swore he thought all the Roundheads in England were there.

“In the first skirmish we lost but one man, who was slain by our own cannon through his own negligence, and another sore burnt and hurt by the same piece. When we came to Stow, the Cavaliers reported that they had killed twenty of our men, and we two of theirs, but we hear there were six of their men slain, some horses killed, and five prisoners taken. Prince Rupert was there, and some say the Lord of Holland also. Our men pursuing them skirmished till nine o'clock at night; we marched after them till twelve o'clock at night; we lay all in the open field upon the ploughed land, without straw, having neither bread nor water, yet God enabled our soldiers to undergo it cheerfully; there was not one feeble sick person amongst us but was able to march with us the day following.

“*Tuesday, September 5th.*—We advanced from that field near to a town called Prestbury, within sight of Gloucester, about seven miles from it: this day the whole army marching together, it fell to our Red Regiment of the Trained Bands to march in the rear of the waggons, and had the charge of them; about six o'clock the Lord General coming to the top of a high mountain, or hill, called Prestbury Hill, where we might see the City of Gloucester, he commanded four or five great pieces of ordnance to be fired off; some say it was against the Cavaliers, who were about a mile off in the town below the hill: others say it was to give intelligence to Gloucester of our approaching to their relief. The army marched down the hill and hastened to the adjacent villages for quarters; but before the waggons could come to the top of the hill, night drawing on, it began to be

very dark, so that our waggons and carriages could not get down the hill; many of them were overthrown and broken, it being a very craggy, steep and dangerous hill, so that the rest of the waggons durst not adventure to go down, but stayed all night there: six or seven horses lay dead there the next morning that were killed by the overthrow of the waggons: our Red Regiment, having charge of the waggons, were constrained to lie all night on the top of the mountain, it being a most terrible tempestuous night of wind and rain, as ever men lay out in, we having neither hedge nor tree for shelter, nor any sustenance of food or fire: we had by this time marched six days with very little provision; for no place where we came was able to relieve our army, we leaving the road all the way and marching through poor little villages: our soldiers in their marching this day would run half-a-mile or a mile before where they heard any water was; such straits and hardships our citizens formerly knew not, yet the Lord that called us out to do his work enabled us to undergo such hardness as He brought us to. This evening the Lord General was fain to fight for his quarter, and beat the enemy out of it, at a market-town called Cheltenham, five miles from Gloucester, and two miles from this hill; about midnight we had two alarms upon this hill, in the midst of all the storm and rain, which, together with the darkness of the night made it so much the more dreadful, which also caused a great distraction among our soldiers, everyone standing upon his guard, and fearing his fellow-soldier to be his enemy. Many other particular sad stories of this tempestuous stormy night I leave to the relation of others: one young man of the Colonel's company was shot in this confusion upon this hill, whose death will be much lamented by his parents and friends, from whom he received a letter but a few days before to return home.

“The next morning being Wednesday, September 6th, our soldiers came down from that hill into the village aforesaid, being wet to the very skin, but could get little or no refreshing, every house being so full of soldiers; the Cavaliers were in the town but the day before. We stayed here but two or three hours that morning, and then we had an alarm that the Cavaliers were near the town with a great body of Horse. We were all presently

drawn up into a body in the field; our soldiers began to complain pitifully, being even worn out and quite spent for want of some refreshing, some complaining they had not eaten or drunk in two days, some a longer time. Yesterday the enemy raised their siege from before Gloucester. This day our two regiments of the Trained Bands marched to a little village called Norton, three miles wide of Gloucester and four miles from Tewkesbury, where our soldiers had some reasonable accommodation and refreshment. In this village we had many alarms; we continued here two days and two nights.

“*Thursday, September 7th.*—The King’s forces fell upon some of our troops of horse at Winscombe, they being secure; the enemy killed many of them, and took many prisoners and some colours. The regiments of our horse there did belong to Colonel Vere and Colonel Goodwin. The Auxiliary regiments were quartered within two miles where this was done. This night, about seven o’clock, there came a command for our regiments of the Trained Bands to march five miles back again in the night, but it being a very dark night, and our men worn out and spent with their former marching, they refused to go; but next morning, being Friday, September 8th, we did. The Lord General, with the whole army, marched into Gloucester this day. The city was exceeding full of horse and foot; the enemy besieged this town a full month and three days. They had many strong assaults against it, and battered some of their works; in two or three places they had begun to undermine the gates and outworks, but were met with by the City forces, who did undermine within to meet them; without they shot many grandocs of great weight, which, when they fell in the City, were red as fire, yet, blessed be God, killed not one man therewith, only tore up the ground as if a bear had been rooting up the earth. The inhabitants in the City report that the enemy shot 140 shot, great and small, in one day, and yet killed neither man, woman, nor child; they lost about thirty in this City during the time of the siege, most of which, as it is reported, were shot in the head, in peeping through some holes at the enemy. We found very loving respect and entertainment in this city, they being very joyful of our coming. We abode

here Friday night and Saturday, and marched away on Sabbath-day morning. The Lord General left in this city three great pieces of ordnance, as also many score barrels of powder, with match and bullet proportionable, furnishing them to their heart's desire.

"Sabbath-day, September 10th.—The whole army advanced from Gloucester to Tewkesbury, where we abode four days and five nights, till Gloucester had provided themselves with corn and other provisions. The enemy had cut off from the city all their pipes of water, and burnt their mills. My Lord General summoned this town of Tewkesbury, and demanded the twentieth part of their estates for the relief of Gloucester. We were at this town five days—from Sabbath-day till Friday.

"September 15th.—On Thursday night the enemy did fall upon some of our troops of horse, who were quartered about three miles from Tewkesbury, of the regiment belonging to Sir James Ramsey; they slew many of our men, and took many others prisoners. We took four of them prisoners; but the greatest loss was sustained on our side. Before we marched from this town the Lord General gave orders for the making of a bridge over the river Severn, near Tewkesbury, as if our intention had been to march with our army over there to Worcester, which caused the enemy to draw their forces thither as a place of refuge. The wisdom and policy of the Lord General and Council of War, as also their great care for the preservation of our army, is highly to be commended and never to be forgotten, and may serve to stop the mouths of all such as shall hereafter be opened against him; for had the enemy known which way we had marched they might have had us at a great advantage, by gaining the hills, we being now in the vale of Esum, and all our great ordnance and carriages to be drawn up those hills, they might have kept us there all this winter, and starved our army; but, blessed be God, we all marched away with safety. One that was present at Esum, where the King, with his army, lay, affirms that, when tidings came to the King that we were marched from Tewkesbury, they did stamp and swear, and curse their scouts exceedingly that they gave them no better intelligence of our departure. And the same

day we marched from Tewkesbury the King, with his army and train of artillery, marched from Esum after us, as will appear in the ensuing matter.

“Friday, September 15th.—Our whole Army advanced from Tewkesbury to Ciceter (*alias* Cirencester), seventeen miles; we marched all night, and sat down before it about three o’clock in the morning. When we came thither, Sir Robert Pye marched up to the town, and, with some musketeers, he gave fire upon the sentinels, killed one of them and wounded the other; Sir Robert himself received a shot in the arm. The Cavaliers yielded the town, and desired quarter. We took 225 prisoners, whereof ten were Commanders; we tied them two and two together with match, and brought them along with us; we took also twenty-seven waggon-load of provision, which the Cavaliers had provided for the relief of their own Army; they had taken the school-house belonging to the town, and made it their store-house, to lay in such provision as they made the country to bring in; they slew one man of ours, who was pistolled by one that took him prisoner; we killed two or three of them.

“Saturday, September 16th.—We advanced from Cirencester five miles, to a village called Letton, where our London Brigade was quartered that night. The Lord General, with his army, quartered a mile further, at a market town in Wiltshire, called Cricklet. At the village aforesaid were ten cart-loads of Cavaliers, who were sick and lame, and brought thither to be quartered, who, when they heard we were marching to this place, they then found their legs and ran away. This day we had a wet march, and in the night a false alarm.

“Sabbath-day, September 17th.—We marched from Cricklet to a market town, called Swindon, eight miles. This morning news was brought that the Cavaliers were come to Cirencester, and had taken and killed many of our men, who stayed behind drinking, and neglecting to march with their colours, who are not much to be pitied. This day we drove along with our Army about 1,000 sheep and 60 head of cattle, which were taken from malignants and papists in the country, for the maintenance of our Army. Eighty-seven sheep were allotted for our Red Regiment, but we afterwards lost them all when we came to

fight, it being every man's care then to secure himself, and to see to the safety of the Army. This night our London Brigade was quartered two miles beyond the Lord General's quarters, at a poor little village called Chisledon, where we could get no accommodation either for meat or drink but what we brought with us in our knapsacks; most of us quartered in the open field, it being a very cold frosty night. We marched away hence the next morning.

Monday, September 18th.—We advanced from this village about two miles, to a place called Abern Chase, where news was brought to the Lord General that the enemy was coming upon us with a great body of horse, which caused the Lord General to make a stand. Our whole Army being in a deep valley, and the enemy upon the hills on our left flank, we drew up all our Army into a body to the top of the hill, where we had a full view of the enemy over against us. There appeared a great body of their horse, it was conceived there was 7,000 or 8,000, but no foot that we could discern. We stood awhile and faced them; then one small body of horse, as a forlorn hope, marched up the hill to them, and fired upon them, and then retreated to their main body in the valley; the enemy followed our horse in their retreat, firing at them all the way very fiercely; then we fired some drakes at their horse, but did little execution; then our body of foot was drawn down from this hill to the top of another high hill, where we stood and faced the enemy, having a full view of all that was done between our horse and theirs; our foot were not engaged at all in this fight, except two regiments only. Then Colonel Meldram's and Colonel Harvie's troops drew up in a body, and gave the enemy a very fierce charge, which was performed with as brave courage and valour as ever men did, and then wheeled about to a regiment of our foot that stood in rear of them; the enemy pursued them in their retreat, skirmishing one at another all the way; what number was slain in this fight is not yet known. Here Captain Willet received a shot from the enemy, of which wound he is since dead; we lost no other man of note in this fight. One man of great note and esteem of the enemy's party was here slain, Marquis de la Veil; his father is Lord High Marshal of France, and chief Commander in the field.

We took up his body and carried it to Hungerford. I viewed his wounds ; he received three shots in his body from us, one in his right breast, another in the shoulder, and a third in the face. From this place all their horse gathered into a body when it began to be dark, and so ours likewise ; and we marched away that night to Hungerford, five miles. Our Red Regiment, with some other regiments, were quartered a mile on this side Hungerford, at a little village called Shelton ; those that marched in rear of the Army were marching this five miles all night. We were much distressed for want of sleep, as also for all other sustenance ; it was a night of much rain, we were wet to the skin. This day we took twenty-five Cavaliers at Hungerford, whereof one was slain.

"Tuesday, September 19.—We advanced from Hungerford to a village called Embry, about a mile and a half from Newbury : the Lord General had intent to have quartered at Newbury that night, but the King got into the town the day before, and so we were prevented. This morning a trumpeter came from the King to the Lord General to desire that surgeons and doctors might have free access from them to the Marquis that we had taken. But the messenger came too late, for the Marquis was past their cure. The Lord General told him, if they pleased to send for his body they might have it. The death of this Marquis hath much enraged the enemy, being one whom they did highly esteem. This night our whole army quartered in the open field ; we had no provision but what little everyone had in his knapsack. We had now marched many days and nights with little food or any sustenance, and little sleep. This night the King sent a challenge to the Lord General, to give him battle the next morning, which accordingly was performed ; and in the night our enemies gained the hills where they intended to give us battle ; they planted their ordnance, got all advantages they could desire, before our army marched up to them. Yet now we see there is neither wisdom nor policy nor strength against the Lord ; yea, had not the Lord himself been on our side, they had swallowed us up quick, so great was their rage and fury stirred up against us, they being confident of the victory before we came to fight. But let not him that puts on his harness boast as he that puts it off. For it was not our own arm that

saved us, but the right hand of the Lord became glorious in that day, to get himself a glorious name.

“The next morning, Sept. 20, very early before day, we had drawn up all our army in their several regiments, and marched away by break of day; and then advancing towards the enemy with most cheerful and courageous spirits. The Lord Robert’s soldiers had begun to skirmish with them before we came up to the enemy, which, we hearing, put us to a running march till we sweat again, hastening to their relief and succour. When we were come up into the field our two Regiments of the Trained Bands were placed in open campania upon the right wing of the whole army. The enemy had there planted eight pieces of ordnance, and stood in a great body of horse and foot, we being placed right opposite against them, and far less than twice musket shot distance from them. They began their battery against us with their great guns above half an hour before we could get any of our guns up to us; our gunner dealt very ill with us, delaying to come up to us; our noble Colonel Tucker fired one piece of ordnance against the enemy, and aiming to give fire the second time, was shot in the head with a cannon bullet from the enemy. The Blue Regiment of the Trained Bands stood on our right wing, and behaved themselves most gallantly. Two regiments of the King’s Horse, which stood upon their right flank afar off, came fiercely upon them, and charged them two or three times, but were beaten back with their Musketeers, who gave them a most desperate charge and made them fly. This day our whole army wore green boughs in their hats, to distinguish us from our enemies, which they perceiving, one Regiment of their Horse had got green boughs and rode up to our regiments crying, ‘Friends, friends;’ but we let fly at them, and made many of them and their horses tumble, making them fly with a vengeance. The enemy’s cannon did play most against the Red Regiment of Trained Bands; they did some execution amongst us at first, and were somewhat dreadful when men’s bowels and brains flew in our faces: but blessed be God that gave us courage, so that we kept our ground, and after awhile feared them not; our ordnance did very good execution upon them, for we stood at so near a distance,

upon a plain field, that we could not lightly miss one another. We were not much above half our regiments in this place, for we had sixty files of Musketeers drawn off for the forlorn hope, who were engaged against the enemy in the field upon our left flank. Where most of the regiments of the Army were in fight, they had some small shelter of the hedges and banks, yet had a very hot fight with the enemy, and did good execution, and stood to it as bravely as ever men did. When our two regiments of the Trained Bands had thus played against the enemy for the space of three hours, or thereabouts, our Red Regiment joined to the Blue, which stood a little distance from us, upon our left flank, where we gained the advantage of a little hill, which we maintained against the enemy half an hour; two regiments of the enemy's Foot fought against us all this while to gain the hill, but could not. Then two regiments of the enemy's Horse, which stood upon our right flank, came fiercely upon us, and so surrounded us that we were forced to charge upon them in the front and rear, and both flanks, which was performed by us with a great deal of courage and undauntedness of spirit, inso-much that we made a great slaughter of them, and forced them to retreat; but presently the two regiments of the enemy's Foot in this time gained the hill, and came upon us before we could well recover ourselves, that we were glad to retreat a little way into the field, till we had rallied up our men, and put them into their former posture, and then came on again. If I should speak anything in the praise and high commendations of these two regiments of the Trained Bands, I should rather obscure and darken the glory of that courage and valour God gave unto them this day; they stood like so many stakes before the shot of the cannon, quitting themselves like men of undaunted spirits, even our enemies themselves being judges. It might be expected that something should be spoken of the noble and valiant service performed by the rest of the regiments of the Army, both horse and foot; but their courage and valour itself speaks, which was performed by them that day, our men fighting like lions in every place, the great slaughter among the enemy testifies. My noble and valiant Captain, George Mosse, who was with the forlorn hope, received a shot in the back from the enemy, of

which wound he is since dead. This 26th of September (*hinc illæ lachrymæ*) we lost about sixty or seventy men in our Red Regiment of the Trained Bands, besides wounded men; we having the hottest charge from the enemy's cannon of any regiment in the Army. Also that worthy and valiant gentleman, Capt. Hunt, was slain in this battle, whose death is much lamented. These two poor regiments were the very objects of the enemy's battery that day, and they have since made their boast of it. It is conjectured by most that the enemy lost four for one; seventy chief commanders were slain on their side. This is most certain, that they did acknowledge themselves to be beaten. It is credibly informed by those that were this day in the King's Army, that the King himself brought up a Regiment of Foot and another of Horse into the field, and gave fire to two pieces of ordnance, riding up and down all that day in a soldier's gray coat. The next day I viewed the dead bodies; there lay about 100 stripped naked in that field where our two regiments stood in battalion. This night the enemy conveyed away about thirty cart-load of maimed and dead men, as the town-people credibly reported to us, and I think they might have carried away twenty cart-load more the next morning; they buried thirty in one pit, fourteen lay dead in one ditch. This battle continued long; it began about six o'clock in the morning, and continued till past twelve o'clock at night; in the night the enemy retreated to the town of Newbury and drew away all their ordnance; we were in great distress for water, or any accommodation to refresh our poor soldiers; yet the Lord himself sustained us so that we did not faint under it; we were right glad to drink in the same water where our horses did drink, wandering up and down to seek for it. Our word on this day was 'Religion,' theirs was, 'Queen Mary in the field.' The great goodness of God in giving us victory this day is so much the more remarkable from these three considerations:—First, that great disadvantage we had this day in case we had been beat by the enemy, we having no place of retreat for safety nearer than Gloucester, which was above thirty miles, whereas our enemies had possession of Newbury, and, in a manner, of the whole country round about; secondly, we had great scarcity

of provision for our Army, having marched many days and nights, with little food or sleep, or any refreshment; had not God fed us with the bread of our enemies, which we took at Cirencester, we could not without a special providence of God have been able to subsist, whereas our enemies had the town of Newbury and the country all about for their relief; thirdly, we had great disadvantage by giving battle in that place; the enemy had made choice of their ground, planted their ordnance, gained all advantages they could desire. Besides many other disadvantages on our part, which I forbear to relate, yet God gave us the victory and made our enemies fly before us, that we kept the field all night. The Lord General deserves perpetual honour by his wise, worthy and valuable managing of this day's battle; as also no less praise and commendation to the rest of the Council of War. Many more particular passages might here be inserted, but I proceed.

“ *Thursday, September 21st.*—After we had buried our dead, we marched from this field with our whole Army to a town called the Veal, eleven miles, and four miles from Reading, where, in our march this day, our enemy pursuing us fell upon our rear in a narrow lane, about a mile and a half from a village called Aldermason; they came upon us with a great body of Foot and Horse. Our London Brigade marched in the rear, and a forlorn hope of 600 Musketeers in the rear of them, besides a great number of our Horse; but our Horse which brought up the rear durst not stand to charge the enemy, but fled, running into the narrow lane, routed our own Foot, trampling many of them under their horses' feet, crying out to them, ‘Away, away; every man shift for his life; you are all dead men;’ which caused a most strange confusion amongst us. We fired ten or twelve drakes at the enemy, but they came upon us very fiercely, having their Foot on the other side of the hedges; many of our waggons were overthrown and broken, others cut their traces, and horse-harness, and ran away with their horses, leaving their waggons and carriages behind them; our Foot fired upon the enemy's Horse very bravely, and slew many of them; some report above 100, and not ten of ours: some that we took prisoners our men were so enraged at them

that they knocked out their brains with the butt end of their muskets. In this great distraction and rout a waggon of powder lying in the way overthrown, some sparks of fire or match fell among it which did much hurt; seven men burnt, and two killed; the enemy had got two of our drakes in the rear had not our Foot played the men and recovered them again; this was about four or five o'clock at night; many of our men lost their horses, and other things which they threw away in haste; we marched on and came to the Veal about ten o'clock at night.

"*Friday, September 22nd.*—We advanced from the Veal and came to Reading, four miles, when we refreshed our soldiers after our hard service and wearisome marchings. We stayed here Friday, Saturday, and Sabbath-day; Saturday night about twenty of the enemy's Horse came and gave us an alarm. Sabbath-day was celebrated a day of thanksgiving; we marched away hence on Monday morning.

"*Monday, Sept. 25th.*—We advanced from Reading to Maidenhead; our brigade was quartered here, but the Lord General with his army and all his train marched to Windsor.

"*Tuesday, Sept. 26th.*—We advanced from Maidenhead about 4 o'clock in the morning, having some intention of marching to London that night, but came no farther than Brainford, where we stayed the next day also, being Fast-day.

"*Thursday, Sept. 28th.*—We marched from Brainford to London, where we were joyfully received home of all our friends, and all that wish well to the Parliament, and to the vexation of heart of all wicked malignants who had raised reports that we were all routed and slain. The Lord Mayor, together with the Aldermen of the City, met us at Temple Bar and entertained us joyfully: many thousands bidding us welcome home, and blessing God for our safe return. Thus God, that called us forth to do His work, brought us through many straits, delivered us from the rage and insolency of our adversaries, made them turn their backs with shame, giving us victory, and causing us to return home joyfully."*

* See also British Museum $\frac{E. 69}{12}$. "The Parliament Scout communicating His Intelligence to the Kingdome," &c. London: 1643. 4to.

